

JAN. 14,
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The Melbourne Times

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MELBOURNE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1905.

(48 PAGES.) PRICE 3d.

Missing Friends.

DIVORCE. Missing Friends traced, divorce evidence collected. Male and female detectives employed. Charges small. Unknown, 430 Bourke st.

LOYD'S Missing Friends. Next-of-Kin, Inquiry Office, 50 Swanston st., Melbourne. First established offices in Australia.

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LOYD'S INQUIRY OFFICE. Missing Friends Traced, investigations conducted by expert detectives all over the world.

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LOYD'S. Retained by the principal banks, Merchants, Solicitors. References Judges, magistrates, bankers, solicitors.

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STEAMERS SAIL

JAN. 23. FEB. 20. MARCH 20.

ROUND THE WORLD RATES.

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ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLETS FURNISHED FREE.

UNION STEAMSHIP CO. OF N.Z. LTD., Managing Agents, 453 COLLINS STREET.

Racing.

VICTORIA RACING CLUB.

AUTUMN MEETING, 1905.

GENERAL ENTRIES CLOSE

At the Offices of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide; of the W.A.T.C., Perth, at 6 p.m.

MONDAY, 6th FEBRUARY, 1905.

All Entries Must be Accompanied with

The Committee Reserve the Right to Reject

At Any Time Any Entry Submitted

To or for Them.

FIRST DAY, SATURDAY, 4th MARCH.

HOPEFUL STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 200 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. For 2 yrs old (that have never received 50 sovs (clear of own stake) of public money in any one race—colts, 8st 10lb; fillies and geldings, 7st 7lb. Five furlongs.

ST. LEGER STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 20 sovs each, 5 ft., or 1 sov. only if declared and paid to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; or of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide, before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st February, 1905, with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old—colts, 8st 10lb; fillies, 8st 7lb. One mile and three-quarters. (Closed with 117 nominations.)

Second forfeit (5 sovs.) to be declared and paid to the V.R.C. Secretary, in Melbourne, before 4 p.m. on 2nd March (the Thursday before the race), or the nominator will be liable for the whole stake.

NEWMARKET HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 25 sovs each, 5 ft., or 2 sovs only if declared to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; or of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide, before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st February, 1905, with 1,000 added. Second horse to receive 200 and the third 100 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old and upwards. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, value 100 sovs., to carry 3lb extra; of 200 sovs., 7lb extra; of 300 sovs., 10lb extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

Entries, accompanied with 2 sovs (the amount of first forfeit), close at the offices of the Secretaries of the V.R.C., of the A.J.C., of the S.A.J.C., and of the W.A.T.C. respectively, at 6 p.m. on Monday, 9th January, 1905.

Weights to be declared at or before 12 noon on Tuesday, 31st January, or such other date as the Committee may direct.

Second forfeit (3 sovs.) to be declared and paid to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; or of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide, before 4 p.m. on 27th February (the Monday before the race), or nominators will be liable for balance (23 sovs.) of sweepstakes.

SIRE'S PRODUCE STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 15 sovs each, 5 ft., or 1 sov. only if declared and paid to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; or of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide, before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st February, 1905, with 400 added, and 140 subscribed by owners of sires. The nominator of the sire of the winner to receive 50 sovs., the second horse 25 sovs., and the third horse 15 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old—colts, 8st 10lb; fillies, 8st 7lb. Geldings at time of running allowed 5lb. Three-quarters of a mile. (Closed with 46 nominations.)

Second forfeit (5 sovs.) to be declared and paid to the V.R.C. Secretary, in Melbourne, before 4 p.m. on 2nd March (the day before the race), or the nominator will be liable for the whole stake.

Racing.

ESSENDON STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 1 ft., with 250 added. Second horse to receive 110 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. Weight for age. One mile and a half.

BRUNSWICK STAKES.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 250 added. Second horse to receive 50 and the third 25 sovs. out of the stake. 5lb allowance to qualified apprentices bound in Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat. Similar allowance to apprentices bound outside Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat and are approved of by the Committee or Stewards, provided the allowance is claimed two clear days before the race. No horse to carry less than 6st 7lb. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. One mile and a quarter.

SECOND DAY, TUESDAY, 7th MARCH.

AUTUMN HURDLE RACE.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 4 sovs each, 1 ft., with 300 added. Second horse to receive 60 and the third 30 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap hurdle race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. About three miles.

ASCOT VALE STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 20 sovs each, 1 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. For 2 yrs old—colts, 8st 10lb; fillies, 8st 7lb. Winner of any flat race (not a handicap) value 100 sovs., to carry 5lb extra; of 200 sovs., 7lb extra; of 300 sovs., or upwards, 10lb extra. Three-quarters of a mile. (Closed with 121 nominations.)

Forfeit (1 sov.) to be declared and paid to the V.R.C. Secretary, in Melbourne, before 11 a.m. on Monday, 6th March (the day before the race), or the nominator will be liable for the whole stake.

AUTUMN CUP.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 25 sovs each, 5 ft., or 2 sovs only if declared to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., of the A.J.C., of the S.A.J.C., or of the W.A.T.C. respectively, before 4 p.m. on Monday, 10th February, with 1000 added. Second horse to receive 200 and the third 100 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old and upwards. Winner of any handicap flat race after declaration of weights, value 100 sovs., to carry 3lb extra; of 200 sovs., 7lb extra; of 300 sovs., or upwards, 10lb extra. Provided that the winner of the V.R.C. St. Leger, 1905, shall carry in this race not less than 8st or gelding, 8st; filly, 7st 11lb. Two miles and a quarter.

Entries, accompanied with 2 sovs (the amount of first forfeit), close at the offices of the Secretaries of the V.R.C., of the A.J.C., of the S.A.J.C., and of the W.A.T.C. respectively, at 6 p.m. on Monday, 9th January, 1905.

Weights to be declared at or before 12 noon on Tuesday, 31st January, or such other date as the Committee may direct.

Second forfeit (3 sovs.) to be declared and paid to the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; or of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide, before 4 p.m. on 27th February (the Thursday before the race), or nominators will be liable for balance (23 sovs.) of sweepstakes.

MARCH STEEPLECHASE.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, 1 ft., with 250 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap steeplechase, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. About two miles, over a ch course and jumps as the Stewards shall direct.

BOURKE HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Seven furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the first day's racing.

JUNIOR HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 200 added. Second horse to receive 40 and the third 20 sovs. out of the stake. For 2 yrs old. 5lb allowance to qualified apprentices bound in Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat. Similar allowance to apprentices bound outside Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat and are approved of by the Committee or Stewards, provided the allowance is claimed two clear days before the race. No horse to carry less than 6st 7lb. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Two miles. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the first day's racing.

THIRD DAY, THURSDAY, 9th MARCH.

PINES HURDLE RACE.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 3 sovs each, 1 ft., with 250 added. Second horse to receive 50 and the third 25 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap hurdle race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Two miles. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the second day's racing.

ALL-AGED STAKES.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. Weight for age. One mile.

AUTUMN HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old and upwards. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Five furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the first day's racing.

LOCH PLATE.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 100 and the third 50 sovs. out of the stake. For 3 yrs old and upwards. Weight for age. Two miles. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the second day's racing.

NURSERY HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 300 added. Second horse to receive 60 and the third 30 sovs. out of the stake. For 2 yrs old. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Six furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the second day's racing.

RIVER HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 200 added. Second horse to receive 40 and the third 20 sovs. out of the stake. 5lb allowance to qualified apprentices bound in Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat. Similar allowance to apprentices bound outside Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat and are approved of by the Committee or Stewards, provided the allowance is claimed two clear days before the race. No horse to carry less than 6st 7lb. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Five furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the second day's racing.

Racing.

ance to qualified apprentices bound in Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat. Similar allowance to apprentices bound outside Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat and are approved of by the Committee or Stewards, provided the allowance is claimed two clear days before the race. No horse to carry less than 6st 7lb. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. One mile and a quarter. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the second day's racing.

FOURTH DAY, SATURDAY, 11th MARCH.

ELMS HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 200 added. Second horse to receive 40 and the third 20 sovs. out of the stake. For 2 and 3 yrs. old. 5lb allowance to qualified apprentices bound in Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat. Similar allowance to apprentices bound outside Victoria who have not ridden five winning horses on the flat and are approved of by the Committee or Stewards, provided the allowance is claimed two clear days before the race. No horse to carry less than 6st 7lb. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Seven furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the third day's racing.

SELECT STAKES.

(Handicap for Two-Year-Olds.)

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 500 added. Second horse to receive 125 and the third 75 sovs. out of the stake. (Maximum handicap weight 9st.) Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. Seven furlongs. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the third day's racing.

PLACE HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 2 ft., with 400 added. Second horse to receive 80 and the third 40 sovs. out of the stake. For horses that have been placed first, second or third in any race, in any country, since the V.R.C. Autumn Meeting, 1904. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. One mile and a half. Entries for this race close at 8 p.m. on the night of the third day's racing.

The weights to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the third day's racing.

AUTUMN STEEPLECHASE.

A Handicap Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 2 ft., with 400 added. Second horse to receive 80 and the third 40 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap steeplechase, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. About three miles, over a ch course and jumps as the Stewards shall direct. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the third day's racing.

CLAMPION STAKES.

Of 25 sovs each, 2 ft., with 1,000 added. Second horse to receive 300 and the third 150 sovs out of the stake. For 3 yrs old and upwards. Weight for age. Unless the race is run in 6min. 45sec. or under, the added money will be reduced to 500 sovs. and the second and third money to 150 sovs, having regard to the state of the course, may, if they think fit at any time up to one hour before the time fixed for starting such race, vary or alter the above condition as to the time within which the race is to be run. Three miles.

Entries for this race close at the offices of the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide; and of the W.A.T.C., Perth, at 6 p.m. on Monday, 9th January, 1905.

Forfeit (2 sovs.) to be declared and paid to the V.R.C. Secretary half an hour before the time appointed for starting of the race, or the nominator will be liable for the whole stake.

FAREWELL HANDICAP.

A Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 1 ft., with 300 added. Second horse to receive 60 and the third 30 sovs. out of the stake. Winner of any handicap flat race, after declaration of weights, to carry 7lb extra. One mile. The weights for this race to be declared at or before 10 a.m. on the day after the third day's racing.

The General Entries close at the Offices of the Secretaries of the V.R.C., Melbourne; of the A.J.C., Sydney; of the S.A.J.C., Adelaide; and of the W.A.T.C., at 6 o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, 6th February, 1905.

The handicaps will be declared at or before 11 a.m. on Monday, 7th February, or such other date as the Committee may direct, save where otherwise specified.

In all sweepstakes (except when otherwise specified) the forfeit, or any part paid on the day of general entry, and the owner of any horse entered for any such race, who shall neglect to declare forfeit at Scales Payment Office not less than half an hour before the time appointed for the starting of the race, shall be liable for the remainder of the sweepstakes.

The V.R.C. Rules and Regulations strictly adhered to.

H. BYRON MOORE, Sec. V.R.C.

Money.

CREDIT FONCIER. MONEY TO LEND

AT 4% PER CENT.

ON FARMS IN VICTORIA.

For 30 Years.

WITH RIGHT OF PAYING OFF ANY HALF-YEAR.

APPLY AT POST OFFICE OR SAVINGS BANK, OR BY LETTER TO THE

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF SAVINGS BANKS,

MARKET STREET, MELBOURNE.

CHEAP MONEY

AT LOW RATES.

TO FARMERS, GRAZERS, DAIRYMEN, and OTHERS.

In Any Part of Victoria, On Deeds, Cattle, Horses, Furniture (without removal), Farming Implements, or any other reliable security.

NO DELAY. NO LEGAL COSTS.

And With Easy Terms of Repayment.

CALL OR WRITE.

P. FOGARTY.

100 QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE.

FARMERS: CHEAP MONEY.

Without Costs or Commission, and arrange Your own Repayments.

All parts of Victoria. Any sum for any Term.

HORSES, CATTLE, FARM IMPLEMENTS, DEEDS, OR FURNITURE.

Agents and Others, Liberal Commission

Introducing Business.

All correspondence answered by return of post.

Harry L. Moss

(Son of Late Mark Moss),

128 QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE.

Farmers, Dairymen.

I WILL LEND YOU ANY SUM TO SUIT YOUR OWN REQUIREMENTS ON EASY TERMS, on

Horses, Cattle, Implements, Vehicles or Furniture.

Repayments to Suit Borrower.

NO SOLICITORS' COSTS OR COMMISSION.

Letters Replied to by Return Mail.

JOSEPH O'BRIEN,

QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE.

Next Gordon and Gough.

FARMERS,

ANY SUM ADVANCED IMMEDIATELY.

HORSES, CATTLE, FARM IMPLEMENTS, or FURNITURE.

E. HANSLAW, 108 Queen street, Melbourne.

FARMERS, DAIRYMEN, Etc.—I lend promptly any sum on Horses, Cattle, Implements, Vehicles, Etc.; also on Freeholds, Leaseholds, and Interests under Wills, at low rates, Easy Terms, and for any period. J. FLANAGAN, 120 Queen street, Melbourne.

TO LEND.—£150, £200, £250, £300, £400, £500, £600, £700, £800, £900, £1,000, £1,500, £2,000, £2,500, £3,000, £3,500, £4,000, £4,500, £5,000, £5,500, £6,000, £6,500, £7,000, £7,500, £8,000, £8,500, £9,000, £9,500, £10,000, £10,500, £11,000, £11,500, £12,000, £12,500, £13,000, £13,500, £14,000, £14,500, £15,000, £15,500, £16,000, £16,500, £17,000, £17,500, £18,000, £18,500, £19,000, £19,500, £20,000, £20,500, £21,000, £21,500, £22,000, £22,500, £23,000, £23,500, £24,000, £24,500, £25,000, £25,500, £26,000, £26,500, £27,000, £27,500, £28,000, £28,500, £29,000, £29,500, £30,000, £30,500, £31,000, £31,500, £32,000, £32,500, £33,000, £33,500, £34,000, £34,500, £35,000, £35,500, £36,000, £36,500, £37,000, £37,500, £38,000, £38,500, £39,000, £39,500, £40,000, £40,500, £41,000, £41,500, £42,000, £42,500, £43,000, £43,500, £44,000, £44,500, £45,000, £45,500, £46,000, £46,500, £47,000, £47,500, £48,000, £48,500, £49,000, £49,500, £50,000, £50,500, £51,000, £51,500, £52,000, £52,500, £53,000, £53,500, £54,000, £54,500, £55,000, £55,500, £56,000, £56,500, £57,000, £57,500, £58,000, £58,500, £59,000, £59,500, £60,000, £60,500, £61,000, £61,500, £62,000, £62,500, £63,000, £63,500, £64,000, £64,500, £65,000, £65,500, £66,000, £66,500, £67,000, £67,500, £68,000, £68,500, £69,000, £69,500, £70,000, £70,500, £71,000, £71,500, £72,000, £72,500, £73,000, £73,500, £74,000, £74,500, £75,000, £75,500, £76,000, £76,500, £77,000, £77,500, £78,000, £78,500, £79,000, £79,500, £80,000, £80,500, £81,000, £81,500, £82,000, £82,500, £83,000, £83,500, £84,000, £84,500, £85,000, £85,500, £86,000, £86,500, £87,000, £87,500, £88,000, £88,500, £89,000, £89,500, £90,000, £90,500, £91,000, £91,500, £92,000, £92,500, £93,000, £93,500, £94,000, £94,500, £95,000, £95,500, £96,000, £96,500, £97,000, £97,500, £98,000, £98,500, £99,000, £99,500, £100,000, £100,500, £101,000, £101,500, £102,000, £102,500, £103,000, £103,500, £104,000, £104,500, £105,000, £105,500, £106,000, £106,500, £107,000, £107,500, £108,000, £108,500, £109,000, £109,500, £110,000, £110,500, £111,000, £111,500, £112,000, £112,500, £113,000, £113,500, £114,000, £114,500, £115,000, £115,500, £116,000, £116,500, £117,000, £117,500, £118,000, £118,500, £119,000, £119,500, £120,000, £120,500, £121,000, £121,500, £122,000, £122,500, £123,000, £123,500, £124,000, £124,500, £125,000, £125,500, £126,000, £126,500, £127,000, £127,500, £128,000, £128,500, £129,000, £129,500, £130,000, £130,500, £131,000, £131,500, £132,000, £132,500, £133,000, £133,500, £134,000, £134,500, £135,000, £135,500, £136,000, £136,500, £137,000, £137,500, £138,000, £138,500, £139,000, £139,500, £140,000, £140,500, £141,000, £141,500, £142,000, £14

THE STORY TELLER
BY AUTHORS
OLD AND NEW
IN THE "WEEKLY TIMES"

A Courier of Fortune.

B. ARTHUR W. MARCHMONT,
Author of East Against West, Etc., Etc.

CHAPTER.—(Continued).

Gerard paused moment to think, and then answered calmly and firmly.

"Yes, I would've you read it."

"But it is destined to slander you."

"I am too sure your trust to fear any slander, Gelle. I would have you read it, where it be."

"By the Cross, plays a bold hand," muttered the Duke, drawing his breath.

"What is in it?"

"It will ruin nothing," whispered de Proballe.

"Then do I understand him. He must indeed be of her, as he says," and his frown deepened before.

Gabrielle stooping the letter in hesitation moments and then unfolded it.

"I will do nothing, Gerard, although I had it not." She read it then.

"To M. le Bar Proballe—"

"The messengers brought me your last communication and the sum of money I asked for doubts are almost satisfied. I have troublesome matters to attend some little time must pass before can be settled. But you can count my reaching Malincourt by the end of the first days of July, if in it to this you send me a declaration the Duke de Rochelle's oath that I shall receive his pardon for all at Cambrai. You must print, as without it I shall not trust within his province."

"You require a my acceptance of your specifically. I now do this. I wish Gabrielle. She shall never from me that her parents never any such wish for our marriage has been told. I will use my efforts to compel her, if need be, to the Duke's wishes. And in every way faithfully as direct in any other plans you have."

"The fortune teller with Gabrielle will be—"

"The pardon; for no court position, favor, or influence."

"Send me the advance of the pardon, and time a messenger can return his ready to set out myself."

"AD DE BALT."

"By Heaven! call it infamy!" exclaimed the Duke, stirred to the depths of his soul.

Full meaning with Gabrielle. But it was not with Gabrielle who saw in it no more than an attempt to slander him; and he set the effort to words for.

"I knew the author of so vile a letter. I thought for a moment I had been deceived."

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"I thought for a moment I had been deceived."

revelation of Gerard's baseness would change her feelings; and the unshaken confidence she had shown in Gerard's honor was to his jealousy as biting acid to an open wound.

With a bitterness beyond words to describe and far too galling for his soul to endure, he saw now that in causing Gerard to be brought to Morvaix for his own purpose with Gabrielle, he had but plunged a sword into his own heart. The villain had played his part so well that he had won her love; and the wound burned and stabbed and maddened him with its pain.

But he would have his revenge. No man should be suffered to come between him and his desires. If this de Cobalt had won her love, he should pay the price. His rival's life lay in the palm of his hand; and in Morvaix at least there was none to step between him and the object of his hate.

It was a treacherous betrayal; nothing else. Pretending to keep the letter of his pledge, Gerard had broken the spirit, and should be trusted no more. The pardon for the murder at Cambrai should be withheld, unless—and his eyes gleamed dangerously at a fresh thought, and he smiled with a cunning pleasure.

Gabrielle loved this de Cobalt; and the love would put a weapon in his hands powerful enough to break her to his purpose.

His new resolve was quick to take shape. She should be his wife; and the price of her consent should be her new lover's life. The old scheme should be laid away; and with it would go at a stroke all need for de Cobalt's services. His next move was soon decided; and he stepped out and joined Gabrielle and her uncle.

"I make no apology for thus breaking upon you suddenly, because the reason for it is your own welfare," he began, speaking deliberately.

"I trust your lordship does not deem an apology necessary for visiting Malincourt," replied Gabrielle, courteously, but wondering at his manner.

"This is no ordinary visit of courtesy, mademoiselle; and if the manner of it is unusual and displeasing, as it may well be, the purpose will, I hope, prove its excuse. We have been close observers of the scene which has just occurred here—as M. de Proballe has perhaps told you."

But de Proballe had done nothing of the kind, and he started in some dismay at the words. His start was lost by Gabrielle, however, in her intense surprise.

"Observers, my lord? I fear I do not understand," she replied, with dignity.

"By my words explain my meaning. Very little intelligence has reached me concerning this M. de Cobalt; and in my zeal for your welfare I came this morning to confer with M. de Proballe; and we entered the scene that this man's character might be tested openly."

"I should prefer that M. de Cobalt be present," said Gabrielle, taking fire instantly. She made no attempt to disguise her indignation.

"It is unnecessary. His presence or absence is a matter of no concern. What you have to do is to-day and read in that letter his is true."

"Do you mean," she began hastily, then checked herself, and said proudly: "But I will not deign to ask a question. Your lordship must be entirely in error. I have unbounded faith in M. de Cobalt's honor. It is a matter your lordship must excuse my death to discuss."

The Duke frowned, and pressed his anger. "I can understand your feelings," he said, calmly. "But that the man were worthy of it! I leave you for this attitude, and would spare you the pain which the truth would cause you; but it must be told, mademoiselle."

Gabrielle would not answer, and the Duke turned to de Proballe.

"You will tell your lordship, that that letter was written by M. de Cobalt himself in reply to others from you to him."

"I think you and I have better discuss this further," said de Proballe, in a desperate shift at the new weapon.

"It is my wish, mademoiselle," replied the Duke coldly, with a glance of menace.

"Even my uncle himself has not shaken my confidence in M. de Cobalt. He may change his feeling, but he cannot change his word."

"M. de Proballe," said de Proballe, "I know not your intention."

answered, in a fever of disquiet. "I-I scarcely heard what the letter contained; and—before I can say so much I ought to see it—to examine it." He stumbled and hesitated over the words.

"Do I understand, M. le Baron, that you give me the lie?" and the cold cutting words were accompanied by a look that no one could misunderstand.

"God forbid; but I wash my hands of the whole affair," he cried, with a gesture of profound agitation and a sigh.

"It is true, Gabrielle. The letter was written by Gerard to me some time since. It is one of several that have passed between us."

"I do not believe it," and Gabrielle drew herself up in proud repudiation of the further attack upon the man she loved and trusted.

"On my honor it is so, mademoiselle," declared the Duke. "And now I must make my confession of the part I have played in this. It is no humor of mine to seek others' forgiveness, but for what I have done in all this distressful error, I do beg yours. It was at my instance that this de Cobalt was brought to Morvaix."

"Then do I thank you, my lord, and believe me, I see nothing in the act which calls for forgiveness," interposed Gabrielle swiftly, as he paused. He took no notice of the interruption; he was too deeply engrossed in thinking how to put his case most plausibly.

"My motive you will at least admit was worthy—it was the good of the people of Morvaix. Next to myself, the House of Malincourt is the most potent influence here, and thus the subject of your marriage has given me much thought. It would have been a disaster had you fallen under the sway of some unworthy man and been prevailed upon to marry him, and so let the influence of your house pass into evil hands. To prevent this, we—for your uncle has shared my views and acted with me throughout—we planned to arrange your marriage with a man who would place himself under our guidance in all matters."

"And your lordship and you, monsieur, chose a man whose life was so evil—if this lying letter were to be credited—that he only dared to come hither when he had been assured under your lordship's own hand of a pardon for some foul offence. Surely you would not have me credit this of you? I do not. I will not. For it involves a cruel slander upon my true and gallant cousin."

"What the Duke says is true in every word, Gabrielle," declared de Proballe, much relieved at the astute line the Governor was taking.

"We did not know the evil history of this man," continued the Duke in the same quiet, deliberate tone; "or he would never have been brought here. I have but learnt it within the last few hours. The affair at Cambrai was mistold to us; and I have but just gathered the full details of what I find to have been a foul and most treacherous murder."

A contemptuous smile of disbelief was Gabrielle's only answer to this; but it was more eloquent than many words of her unshaken and unshakable faith in Gerard. The Duke paused, and after a moment, resumed—

"We had heard that he had repented of his old excesses and wrong living, and when we sent for him, believed this to be the case. But when we found that his repentance was but acted lying—in which he is an adept—there seemed no cause open but to put him to the proof by confronting him with his own writing, so that your eyes might be opened and your self convinced of the impossibility of a marriage with him."

"I have yet to be convinced, my lord; and know no power or means on earth strong enough to convince me. My parents' wishes—"

"Were but M. de Proballe's invention, mademoiselle," interposed the Duke, in the same cold, deliberate tone. "The story was designed to influence you to agree. That is all. In that we did wrong—grievous wrong, no doubt; for deceit, with whatever motive used, must always be wrong; and in this case it has ended disastrously. For that, as well as for the pain which, with all zeal for your real welfare, I have caused you, I crave your pardon."

"Had you indeed done the harm you fear, I would never forgive you. I never could," answered Gabrielle, firmly; then breaking into a smile she added; "but if indeed you have brought my cousin here, then do I thank you, as I say. Aye, thank you with all my heart."

"You do but jest in a very grave issue, mademoiselle. This marriage is impossible. There was less deliberateness and more sternness in the Duke's tone now, and it provoked Gabrielle's pride.

Unmistakable defiance was in her look and mien as she answered—

"By your lordship's leave, I am head of my house; and if that part of what you have said be true—that my parents have expressed no wish for my marriage—I am free to choose without let or hindrance from any man. But here comes my cousin. He will know how to answer for himself."

As Gerard came out of the house he started at seeing who was present, and then came on with firm step and confident bearing, and smiled to Gabrielle as he reached her side.

CHAPTER XI.—THE DUKE'S SENTENCE.

Gerard saw at once by the faces of all three that some fresh complication had occurred during his absence.

"I am very glad you have come, Gerard," said Gabrielle. "M. le Duc de Rochelle and my uncle have made some charges which you will be glad to face."

"Certainly," he answered, with a bow to the Governor and a quick glance at de Proballe. The Duke took no notice of his salutation.

"We had a conversation yesterday concerning the reason for your coming to Morvaix," said de Proballe. "You have not forgotten it?"

"I am not likely to have forgotten. Do you wish it repeated now?" Gabrielle smiled, and then at the tone in which this was said, Gerard spoke as he, challenger, not the challenged. There could be no mistaking that.

"Leave this to me," interposed the Duke abruptly.

"He admitted everything to me yesterday," declared de Proballe; but the Duke waved his hand impatiently.

"Now, monsieur," he said sharply to Gerard. "A letter of yours to M. de Proballe was read this morning. Where is it?"

"A letter was read. It is here," and he took it from his pocket.

"The Duke and my uncle were listening to our conversation," said Gabrielle, quietly. "They say that the statements in the letter are true."

"They may be," he said, readily.

"Gerard!" Gabrielle's was a cry of consternation.

"Did you think he would dare to deny it, mademoiselle?" asked the Duke.

"There is no reason for any alarm, Gabrielle. On my honor you need but have patience."

"Honor!" exclaimed the Governor, contemptuously.

"Does such a word seem strange to the ears of the Duke de Rochelle?" asked Gerard, quite unmoved, as he met the angry look the question drew forth.

"What are the charges your lordship brings against me?"

"Those contained in your own letter; the letter which confesses the truth. Do you deny you wrote that letter to M. de Proballe?"

For one moment Gerard hesitated.

"The statements contained in that letter so far as they touch me are absolutely false," he declared emphatically.

"That I affirm on my honor, Gabrielle; but for the moment I cannot explain the affair."

"I need no more. I was sure you would repudiate them," she answered exultantly. "I shall stay to hear no more."

"I should prefer you to remain, mademoiselle," said the Duke.

"I crave your lordship's permission to retire. I can hear no more of this attack upon my cousin. I am satisfied. I have his assurance," and without waiting for any permission to be given, she went into the house.

Gerard was glad to be left to deal with the matter in her absence. He recognized the extreme difficulty of the situation and the utter impossibility of giving a rational explanation without telling the truth about himself; but he was anxious to have some plain speaking with the Governor, and he turned at once to him.

"Your lordship will perhaps see the desirability of explaining this new development to me," he said.

"You are an insolent rascal in all truth," was the fiery reply. "It is from you I demand the explanation. See to it that it is satisfactory. I am not wont to be trifled with."

"I see no trifling in all this. Will you explain it, M. de Proballe?"

Gerard regarded him sternly. "What you have had me tell that I was brought here to Morvaix to marry Gabrielle in order to ruin her?" he demanded.

"It is false!" cried the Governor.

A flush of anger mounted to Gerard's face at this insult.

"It accords ill with your reputation for courage, M. le Duc, that you insult a man to whom your position is due, right to call you to account. If it be no other tone to adopt towards me will retire. But with M. de Proballe matter stands otherwise. You will say your tongue, monsieur, or I shall you responsible."

"What an impudent swashbuckler! this murderer," sneered the Governor.

"I am no murderer, my lord," asserted Gerard, hotly.

"He means he holds your Grace's pardon for the deed," said de Proballe.

"It will not save you," declared the Governor, bluntly. "You have bro your word and must take the consequences. I will waste no time with you."

"In what have I broken my word to you? I have changed my plans, but enough for you to know. You are no longer of use to me. But you can have chance to save your skin. You can leave the protection of my assurance; I can leave it again; and never dare in future to show your villainous face within my province."

"I shall not leave," answered Gerard, every whit as firmly. "I have come for a purpose, and that purpose I shall fulfil."

"Do you dare to defy me?"

"My words are my words, and I will not recall them."

"By Heaven! you are a brazen scoundrel. But do not imagine that I, demoiselle de Malincourt, can be so easily won by such a man. More of this, and I will withdraw what I have said, and have you flung into gaol at once to pay the penalty for your crime."

"That must be as your lordship will. I will not leave Morvaix even at your bidding."

For the moment the Duke's temper seemed uncontrollable; but he mastered it, and his tone when next he spoke was cold, tense, and full of menace.

"It may be better so, perhaps; but shall have the chance I named. Understand me plainly. I will give you twenty-four hours in which to put great a distance as you can between you and Morvaix. At noon to-morrow troops will start to hunt you down; whenever and wherever they find you, swear that you shall die for the crime of murder."

"Your hounds will not have far to go. They will find me here in Morvaix, turned Gerard calmly. "I am willing to witness your method, and justice here."

"You shall not lack the chance, monsieur. One other condition for your life I make. Before you leave the city you will return the paper sent to you from me by M. de Proballe. For the rest, look to yourself; for as I live, it will need all your wits and more than all your effrontery to save you from my hands."

With that he turned his right back, saying to de Proballe: "You would speak again to Gabrielle before leaving Malincourt. They walked away together, and Gerard turned and paced the terrace in busy thought.

One thing chiefly perplexed him—the Duke had shown this change of front and now wished to drive him from Morvaix instead of seconding the scheme for the marriage. It did not occur to him to set it down to the true cause—jealousy; and he racked his wits vainly to find a solution.

The only reason that suggested itself to him was one that strengthened his resolve to stay—that the Duke's object was to rob Gabrielle of even the slender protection which his presence afforded. If that were so, it followed that there was some fresh scheme on foot to do Gabrielle immediate hurt; and in that view no consideration whatever should deter him to leave.

But in such a case, why Governor taken the simple handing him over to his sold in seeking the answer to Gerard came much nearer to the truth than he was to run away, his flight tantamount to a confession charges against himself were Gabrielle would be led to hold

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Pear's' Soap
beautifies the complexion
keeps the hands white
and imparts a constant
bloom of freshness to
the skin.
As it is the best and lasts
longest it is the cheapest.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. ...

14, it was this that
use that morning
to elicit from the
lady that Mrs
Gimp was there
at two o'clock.
At a quarter to two he left the house,
and lay in wait for the coming out of the
charwoman.

She was a poor, careworn, but respect-
able-looking woman of about forty. He
followed her to a street in that squalid
neighborhood which lies off the northern
end of Great College street.

As he turned back suddenly from the
narrow cul de sac in which he ran her
to catch, he stumbled against a boy about
eleven years of age.

"Now, then, guv'nor, can't you see
where you're goin'?" said the urchin im-
pudently; "if you can't, why don't you
ask your mother to buy you a pair of
spectacles?"

Cheeky boys are not so uncommon in
London that anyone should excite particu-
lar attention; but it seemed to Jarrett
that he had met this manufacture of the
Ford School before. The urchin re-
turned his stare with interest, and made
an eyeglass of his fingers and thumb.
"You'll know me again, old chap," he
strolled.

"I shall," replied Jarrett, with a signifi-
cance that rather disconcerted "The
Imp," who began to doubt whether he
had not over-acted his part.

The detective, however, had no definite
suspicion, though he photographed the boy
upon his mental retina in the event of
his meeting him again.

At dusk that same evening Mr Jarrett
was again traversing Great College street
on his way to "Billing's Gardens," where
Mrs Gimp lived.

And certainly Mrs Harris would not
have recognised in the gentleman with
black whiskers, black hair, spectacles and
pinstriped suit of pepper-and-salt, the gay and
gallant "Mr Tapley," who rented her back
parlor.

Since encountering the cheeky boy, the
detective had a feeling that he was being
shadowed.

When that evening he came out of his
chambers, he walked at a great rate down
the street and across Soho Square, then
suddenly wheeled round and walked
back, meeting a gentleman with a pimply
face and spongy, carbuncled nose. He
looked straight at him, but the gentle-
man's eyes were fixed upon the ground,
and it spoke well for the excellence of
"The Kite's" make-up that his old foe
did not recognise him.

Though he might have done so if he had
turned round and watched his walk—an-
other almost infallible mode of detecting
personality.

Instead of that, Jarrett retraced his
steps at his topmost speed, dived in and
out the narrow turnings and alleys that
abound in the neighborhood, emerged into
Charing Cross Road, and jumped into
the first omnibus bound for Camden
Town that passed.

"The Kite" was doubled, and lost the
agent.

"He knows he's been followed; that boy
must have made some blunder to-day. I
don't think he recognised me. I must go
on a new track to-morrow," was the bird
of prey's comment upon his misadven-
ture.

Billing's Gardens was a survival of the
days when that part of Camden Town
was a suburb; the one-storey houses had
plots of ground back and front, wherein
flowers and vegetables once grew; but
there were now only soot-stained
stretches of trodden-down mud, here and
there relieved, in the summer months,
by a few straggling scarlet runners.

Mrs Gimp lived in the last house in the
row, to reach which the visitor had to
thread his way through a maze of howl-
ing, romping children.

Mrs Gimp herself answered the door.
"I think," said Mr Jarrett, in a suave
voice, "that you occasionally go out nurs-
ing?"

"Well, sir, I have done so; but I'm not
a regular nurse, you know," was the
answer.

"Will you allow me to come inside so
that I may speak with you? The child-
ren are making such a noise that I can
hardly hear what you say."

"Certainly, sir."

The room, which served as a bed and
sitting-room, was poor but scrupulously
clean, as was the woman herself. Mr
Jarrett always noted these things, as he
decided thereby his mode of proceeding.

"Mrs Gimp," he began, when he had
settled himself, "about eighteen months
ago you nursed a sick lady at No. 2 Elm
street, who died under—well, somewhat
unsatisfactory circumstances. I am a
near relative of that person, and I want
you to tell me all you know, and your
opinion of the matter."

While he was speaking, he took a couple
of sovereigns from his waistcoat pocket
and put them upon the table.

At the mention of "a sick lady at No.
2 Elm street," he saw the woman change
color, and, as it were, draw herself with-
in herself, but her eyes were irresistibly
drawn to the coins with the longing of
poverty to which gold is known.

"I know," pursued the detective, "that
you noticed certain things, and have
spoken about them to others. Now, Mrs
Gimp, I want you to make a clean breast
of it and answer any questions I may
put to you."

As he spoke, Jarrett put another sove-
reign upon the table. The woman's eyes
grew yet more eager, and her fingers
moved nervously. She was running
through her mind what she could buy
with that money.

"Now, can you tell me who the ser-

vant, Hannah Wickens, was like; can
you describe her?"

"Well, sir, I can show you her photo-
graph, and then you can judge for your-
self."

Jarrett's heart gave a great leap.
Mrs Gimp went to a little side table
on which some photographs were stand-
ing, and brought one forward. It was
cracked and soiled, but the impression
was not injured.

As the reader is already acquainted
with the original, we need not give any
description of Rhoda's counterfeit pre-
sentment.

Jarrett scrutinised it for a moment,
then he said: "Will you give me this,
Mrs Gimp, in consideration of those?"
pointing to the coins upon the table.

"Surely, sir. It's been knocked about
a good deal. You see, I found it in a
bundle of clothes that Hannah gave me
belonging to her mistress, and it must
have got in by accident."

"Have you a photo. of the mistress?"
"No, sir. She was dark-haired, and thin
in the face."

"She died rather suddenly, didn't she?"
"Well, when she was took with in-
fluenza, they asked me to come in and
help look after her—I used to chat for
Mrs Jenson. She didn't seem very bad,
and the doctor said she'd be all right in
a few days. When I came on the fourth
morning she was dead; sudden stoppage
of the heart, they said."

"Have you any particular reason for
thinking all was not right?"

"No, sir; I can't say as I had; but,
somehow, I had a feeling things was a
bit funny, it seemed to me. Hannah was
a great deal more the mistress than Mrs
Dudley, and I'm sure the poor thing was
not happy or comfortable; and she
seemed as if she wanted to say something
to me, but they never left me a minute
alone with her."

"What kind of a woman was Mrs Jenson?"

"Oh, sir, she's an awful woman," said
Mrs Gimp, with a little shudder, "though
whether it's wickedness or some dreadful
trouble she's had, I don't know."

"She seems very old and very feeble,
though."

"Not so old as she looks; and I believe
the feebleness is a good deal put on; a
year or two ago she could lift weights
that I couldn't move—and, ah, such a
awful temper when she's in a rage, she's
more like a fiend than a woman. I used
to be frightened to death of her, if I did
anything wrong or anything upset her;
she'd rave and scream and grip hold of
me as if she'd kill me. I must say she
was very sorry for it afterwards, and
would give me an extra shilling; but I
couldn't put up with it at last."

"What could possess Mrs Dudley to take
lodgings at such a place?" said Jarrett.

Mrs Gimp shook her head. "Ah, they
weren't mere lodgers, they was something
more, relations or friends—or I don't know
what."

"So you think that Mrs Jenson puts on
her decrepitude?"

"Well, she is a good deal changed within
this year or two; she was always very
white and very haggard, but looks more
like a corpse now; and then her eyes used
to be wild and flashing and fierce, but
of late they're as dull as a mackerel's.
And she's more lonely and morose than
ever."

"Did you ever see a tall, dark, hand-
some man come to the house?"

"Never was a man visit the house."

"Nobody seems to know anything about
Mrs Jenson."

"Nobody, sir; I was saying she's got
such an awful temper. In her bedroom is
a picture with the face against the wall.
One day I was curious enough to turn it
round and see what it was. It was the
picture of a gentleman, still young, very
good looking, though with rather a hard,
severe face; but the strange thing was
that it had holes all over it, just as if
someone had been striking a scissor or a
knife in it."

"Someone Mrs Jenson had a hatred for,
I suppose. Women do wreak their spite
in strange ways at times."

Jarrett put many other questions to Mrs
Gimp, but elicited nothing further of any
consequence to this narrative.

The great reward of the day's work was
the photograph of Mrs Dudley. That she
was still living, that it was the servant,
Hannah Wickens, who was buried in her
name, had probably been poisoned, Jarrett
considered to be now ascertained facts.

A pang went through his heart as he
thought of Rosamund Fleming. Ought he
not to warn her? That would be use-
less at present, until he was in posses-
sion of further proofs.

But he would show her the photo-
graph to test a suspicion, that, wild and
improbable as it seemed, had suddenly
suggested itself.

What he had heard about Mrs Jenson
was curious, but at present he could not
perceive that it had any material bear-
ing upon the point at issue. No doubt
she knew a great deal that he was
anxious to be resolved upon, but how was
she to be got at? There was the crux.
(To be Continued.)

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THE LEGACY.

BY JOSEPHINE H. NICHOLLS.

Louis Pierre Larose, seated on the
shady gallery of his little cottage, looked
about him contentedly. The sun was set-
ting, throwing long shadows across the
grass and gilding the windows of the
tiny church across the road. From
where he sat he could see the milking
pen, where Madame in her neat frock and
spotless neckerchief was milking Clo-
chette and Florimel, the two fat cows.
Madame's silvered head showed through
the gap in the cherokee hedge, and her
voice, low and softly cooing, now and
then floated to him: "Quiet, Clochette; be
still, Florimel! Oh, thou restless one, will
not supper wait for you?"

In the gentle tones lurked the sweetness
that had long ago won Louis Pierre's
faithful heart, and as he listened, his pipe
between his teeth, his brown swept by
the evening breeze, his thoughts harked
back to the past when he and Antoine
Girod had been rivals for the hand of
pretty Sylvanie Frere, Antoine, the only
son of the wealthy blacksmith, was, from
a worldly standpoint, a far better match
than he, Louis Pierre, tall and active and
full of energy, but with no capital to be-
gin life on save his own strength.

Until Sylvanie flashed across the path,
like a ray of sunshine or better still,
like one of the cardinal birds. Pere Julien,
the priest, forbade the boys to trap, he had
been content to slip through life as a
cane butter and day laborer on Monsieur
Grand's great sugar plantation. But after
her coming everything changed. Ambition
awoke in his careless breast, visions of a
little home, of a young wife with eyes full
of love and laughter, of children to climb
upon his knee and lean against his
shoulder, came ever and anon to rouse
him from his languor and wean him from
the coarser pleasures of the bar and gam-
ing table that had hitherto satisfied him.

Antoine, slim and handsome, with a
ready tongue and well filled purse,
was no easy opponent to overthrow,
as Louis Pierre soon discovered; and
Sylvanie, petted and admired, was not
one to strew a lover's path with roses.
Louis Pierre, thoughtless and natur-
ally indolent, found in those days of
content that prizes worth having are
not to be had for asking, and the les-
sons he learned then, albeit unwillingly,
served him in good stead in his after
life. To win Sylvanie became his ab-
sorbing passion, and from a merry
good natured boy, he became an earnest
and resolute man, bent upon leaving no
stone unturned to gain his end. He met
Antoine with frank opposition, and Syl-
vanie with subtle patience. Upon his old
companions he turned a cold shoulder,
and his weekly earnings, instead of
swelling the profits of old Raoul Gros-
jean's cabaret, went towards the pur-
chase of a plot of ground on the bayou-
side.

Many an evening Antoine in his painted
green cart, with Sylvanie beside him,
drove past the china grove where Louis
Pierre was building with his own hands
a tiny house for his bride-to-be. Who
that bride was no one knew, though
many guessed, for in response to his
companions' rough jests, their laughing
allusions to a cage without a bird, he had
always the same reply: "Wait and see—
you will know soon enough."

Sylvanie had in the beginning paid
slight heed to the home Louis Pierre
was preparing, and in her heart lurked
a shadowy resentment that people should
take it for granted that she would some
day occupy it. But when, one after-
noon, strolling past with Antoine Girod,
she looked over the fence to note how
trim the yard was, how cheerful the
small house with its wooden blinds and
earth-plastered walls, for the first
time the possibility of marrying Louis
crossed her mind. She saw herself
training the Marechal Niel rose, Made-
moiselle Felicite Grand had given Louis
from her own gardens; she
imagined herself feeding the chickens
that fluttered and cackled in the neat
basse-cour behind the house, or milk-
ing the cow whose nose was
thrust confidently over the bars; or,
still sweeter thought, saw herself seated
in the twilight with Louis Pierre, his
day's work done, her hand in his, her
head upon his shoulder—just they two,
with all the rest of the world forgotten!
The very fancy made her heart beat
faster, and the color rose so rapidly in her
olive cheeks that Antoine, whose eyes
rarely left her face, wondered dully what
had caused her agitation.

"It is nothing—nothing," she said in
reply to his questions. "Only I am tired—
the sun is hot. Yes, let us go home."
Antoine never understood why, but
from that day dated his fall from grace.

Parisian restaurant, of
the, hitherto used for a griddle, and
the money, found herself suddenly very
near-sighted. With the keenness of
awakened feeling she observed much she
had before ignored; noted the contrast
between his effeminate good looks and
Louis Pierre's stalwart strength; the
difference between his flowery protesta-
tions and Louis Pierre's stammered ear-
nestness.

The little house appealed to her. Louis
Pierre's affection was a thing so certain
that she never dreamed of questioning
it, and by degrees the seed of love planted
in her heart that summer afternoon bloss-
omed into perfect understanding.

The countryside was surprised but de-
lighted when her choice was known, and
the wedding, celebrated in the good old
'cajen style, with all the neighborhood in-
vited, with two great bullocks roasted
and chickens and ducks slaughtered by
the dozen, with loaves of cake and bread
baked by the dozen, and maypop syrup
flowing generously, long lingered in the
memory of all.

"Good luck and prosperity!" toasted
Monsieur Grand, who had been especially
invited to the marriage, and "Happiness
and mutual trust," murmured Pere
Julien, his hands hovering a moment over
Sylvanie's flower-crowned brow.

As the years went by both wishes
had been realized, for Louis Pierre's
industry had changed the small farm
into a large one; field after field of
corn and potatoes, with here and there a
cut of shining cane, brought him a com-
fortable income, while a fertile vegetable
garden and well-stocked poultry yard fur-
nished Madame with pin money, the Hotel
la Louisianne at the village down the
bayou, engaging her produce for weeks
ahead. As for happiness and mutual
trust, not a cloud had risen between the
married lovers, whose gladly uttered "I
will" had fallen so long ago from the lips
of both. There had been sorrow and
tears of bitterest anguish, but not for lost
illusions or shaken faith. A little grave
in the churchyard across the way marked
the passing of a hope, the burying of a
transient joy, but the loss had only drawn
the bereaved couple nearer.

Louis Pierre passed his hand across his
wrinkled brow, a toilworn hand, but still
full of nervous energy. Providence had
been very good to him, he reflected. With
a good wife, a comfortable home, a little
money laid up in the bank for the tradi-
tional rainy day—

A step falling on the grassy path
startled him from his musings. "Bon-
soir, mon fils," said a kindly voice, and
Pere Julien, very withered and old to-
day, a different man from the tall, young
priest who had married him, came up the
steps with outstretched hand.

Louis Pierre got up hurriedly. "Good
evening, Father," he responded cordially.
"It has been long years since you were
here. I am glad you remembered us at
last."

"Peace, lad," said the old man, seating
himself in the shade of the Marechal Niel
rose. "You are always in my thoughts,
you and your good wife, but I have been
away from home lately. There has been
fever at Coulee Croche and they had need
of me."

"Coulee Croche!" repeated Louis Pierre.
"But, mon pere, you are too old to take
such journeys!"

"Never too old to travel in the Lord's
service, Louis, but I must explain what
brings me here to-day." He opened an
inner pocket and drew out a legal docu-
ment. "Andre Laval, the notary," he
said, looking over his glasses, "met me
awhile ago, and asked me to bring you
this. He said he would be over to see
you to-morrow."

"I do not understand," began Louis.
"Read," said the priest, and handed
him the paper.

Louis Pierre was an indifferent scholar,
and after much difficulty made out that
Antoine Girod, late of Paris, France, a
native of Louisiane, had died recently,
leaving in his last will and testament the
sum of sixty thousand francs to Louis
Pierre Larose, to be paid over to him by
the said Girod's legal representatives up-
on application. To better understand,
Louis Pierre read the letter aloud. At its
conclusion he let it fall, and, with a look
of utter stupefaction, gazed at Pere
Julien.

"Antoine!" he gasped at length, "after
all these years—sixty thousand francs! I
knew he was a rich man, and had gone to
France to live, but that he should re-
member me—that he should leave this
magnificent legacy—to me—and not to
Sylvanie—is incredible."

Pere Julien absently took a pinch of
snuff. He apparently had no comment
to make.

"Well, he was a good fellow—Antoine.
And he must have liked me in spite of
everything. But are you sure there is
no mistake, Father?" Louis Pierre's
eyes grew suddenly suspicious. "Per-
haps this is a joke, a canard put up by
some enemy who hopes to humiliate me."

"Not so far as I can see, Louis. Andre
told me what the letter contained, and he
is too much of a lawyer to be easily de-
ceived."

"Sixty thousand francs!" mused Louis
Pierre. "Ma foi! What can not one do
with so much money?"
"You have a pretty home, Louis," re-
marked the priest, pulling a fragrant rose
spray towards him.

Louis shrugged his shoulders. "Oh, it
is well enough for some," he said.

even the birds of the
and I," complained Lo-
well to say that fortune does not make
happiness; but money is a good grease
for the wheels of life," and he pursed
his lips.

"Welcome, Father," said Madame's
soft voice from the doorway.

"Sylvanie!" cried Louis Pierre eag-
erly. "I have strange, wonderful, joy-
ful news. What think you? Antoine
Girod has just died in Paris and left me
a fortune of sixty thousand francs! Not to you, Chere, which I might have
understood, but to me—showing that
he was a good fellow at heart and bore
me no ill will."

Pere Julien glanced at Madame
keenly. She did not speak at once
and he saw that, while surprised, she
was not pleased as her husband was by
the receipt of the tidings.

"I wonder why he left the money to
you, Louis," she said at length. "He
was never your friend!"

"Oh, yes, at one time afterwards we
fell out, but what of that? This proves
that he has forgiven—that he liked me
in spite of our falling out."

She shook her head. "He was not
like that—he never forgave one who
had hurt him. He hated you, and this
money is given with no right motive.
Depend upon it."

"Stay!" he cried, an ugly after-
thought flashing through his mind.
"Perhaps that is what he means. He
wants me to know he was well sat-
isfied with your decision."

"Let us hope so," said Madame, com-
posedly. "It would be folly to think
otherwise after so long a time. Will
you take supper father? I will give
you freshly laid eggs, honey from my own
hives and cream as yellow as a butter-
fly's wings."

"Attends!" cried Louis Pierre. "A
month from now and we will offer you
finer fare, father."

"But none that could please me better,
Louis," and the priest looked past
Madame's handsome face with its scarlet
dash of displeasure.

"Sixty thousand francs!" murmured
Louis Pierre again. "I will buy old
Baptiste Cartier's land and that strip of
Michael's, and some day instead of sell-
ing my cane to Felix Grand I may build
a sugar house of my own!"

"Come, father," said Madame. "This
money has made Louis forge his supper."
"Strange if it did not," retorted Louis.
"After all, Antoine was a good fellow—
a trifle reckless, perhaps, but with a kind
heart of his own."

"He was your enemy," said Madame
firmly.

"Oh, the vanity of women!" laughed
Louis. "She thinks Antoine brooded over
her loss all his life; that he never for-
gave me my success! Thens, thens, but
you are droll, Sylvanie!"

Madame's dark eyes flashed. Louis had
never spoken rudely to her before, and it
was difficult to keep back the angry words
hovering on her lips; but she was a wise
woman as well as a good one, and she
knew that a bitter retort now would
make a situation, already uncomfortable,
decidedly worse.

"Come in to supper," she said, pushing
the white cotton curtains aside, "and you,
father, tell me if it is true that the fever
has broken out at Coulee Croche."

II.

Pere Julien gazed through a break in
the wisteria vine on his porch; from
across the road came the sound of ham-
mers and the busy hum of saws. Where
six weeks before Louis Pierre's cottage
nestled in the midst of its china trees
stood a hideous modern dwelling with
numerous balconies and fancy cupolas.
The humble cabin, Sylvanie's happy home
for so many years, was not good enough
for the master of sixty thousand francs,
and, despite his wife's protestations, it
had been torn down and the new house
set in its place. The Marechal Niel rose
had been trampled down by the workmen,
one of the trees had fallen to make room
for the dwelling, and altogether the place
bore but slight resemblance to what it had
once been.

And Louis Pierre himself was almost
as greatly changed!

The sudden acquisition of wealth had
temporarily dragged him from his moor-
ings; the quiet life he had hitherto led
no longer contented him; the simple
possessions he had once rejoiced in be-
came hateful in his sight.

"We can afford the best now!" was his
constant cry, and to Madame's gentle
remonstrance he turned a deaf ear.

He made a visit to the city and bought
furniture and silver "as handsome as
Monsieur Grand's." He laden Madame

CALIFORNIA
HEADACHE
Furred Tongue, Loss of
Appetite, Depression, indi-
cate a Constipated Condition.
A dose of California Syrup of
Figs will put you right with-
out pain, nausea or incon-
venience. It is indeed
"NATURE'S PLEASANT
LAXATIVE."
SYRUP OF FIGS

...a presents; he gave Pere Julien a cask of wine that that good man sent at once to the Coulee Croche invalids. He put a gaudy monument in place of the cross over the grave of the child they had lost, and arranged for the purchase of a Kentucky thoroughbred to take the place of the old grey mare which Madame's father had given her years before.

The neighborhood looked on in amazement. Louis Pierre's follies were the talk of the parish. Indignant and grieved as she was, Madame yet bore patiently with her husband, trusting to time to bring him back to his usual sane self. Until one day, having expressed regret over some unusual extravagance, he retorted angrily that it was not her money, that he could do as he pleased with his own—that she had brought him no dowry and had nothing to say about it.

Madame listened with quivering lip; it seemed to her that she had not known what suffering meant until now.

"You want me for that," she said. "You would shame me with my poverty! Little I cared when I married you whether you were poor or not."

"And are you sorry now?" he asked. "Do you regret you chose me instead of Antoine?"

"I regret you should be so changed—unlike yourself. It is the accursed money—Antoine's legacy. I knew it would bring us no good!"

Louis Pierre laughed boisterously. "What woman's talk is this? Perhaps if it were yours you would not hate it so."

"You mean that I am jealous of you?"

"I mean that you will not let me enjoy my money; that instead of rejoicing with me you pull a long face and look ready to cry at anything!"

"I miss the little house, Louis. I am an old woman, and change confuses me. I was never meant for a grand lady. What do I want with all the silver and fine furniture? Simple things please me—the dandied floors and plain chairs and tables. If you would only let me be happy my own way!"

But Louis, secretly touched by the appeal, flung away angrily, and Pere Julien from his porch heard him a moment later quarrelling with the workmen.

Andre Laval, sauntering down the road, paused to exchange greetings with the priest. After a little desultory chat he glanced significantly across the way.

"There is trouble yonder," he said.

"I fear so," said the priest.

"Well, what can you expect, Father, when the man is a fool and the woman an angel? She should give him as good as he sends—rough word for rough word, folly for folly! Then we would see Monsieur open his eyes. But these good women—they shut the door of their own happiness and then lament that life has treated them hardly."

"No, Andre, that is not quite just. Rough word for rough word, folly for folly, would bring misery, not happiness. Let Madame alone; leave her to her own way. She will bring Louis to his senses yet!"

So Madame had herself thought at first; but as time went on, revealing each day new extravagances in her husband, she began to lose heart. Her mouth drooped at the corners, her figure stooped slightly, and her beautiful eyes were full of brooding sadness. Louis saw it with rising anger.

"One would think," he exclaimed one day, "I was trying to worry you instead of doing all I can to please you!"

"If you had wished to please me, Louis, you would have left things as they were. This fine house, the grand carriage and shining horses, are not for me. I am only a plain old woman."

"Nonsense!" he interrupted rudely. "I am tired of hearing that; we are as good as anybody now we have plenty of money."

She looked at him sadly, and a deep silence fell between them. Then after awhile Madame remarked timidly "Pere Julien was here to-day. He said the fever is very bad at Coulee Croche and they are in sore need of nusses. I told him I would go to them for a time."

"You did!" he cried, throwing out his hand angrily. "Well, learn this once and for always—that I am master here, and neither you nor any petticoated priest shall have the say so!"

By fatal mischance, just as Louis threw out his hand to emphasize his speech, Madame leaned toward him, to receive a blow from his clenched fist. The next moment she started up, her eyes flashing magnificently. "Did you mean that?" she cried. "Would you beat me into submission?"

Louis Pierre was as horrified as she when he accidentally struck her, but some demon of pride took possession of him and instead of manfully owning to a mistake, to her passionate question he answered sullenly: "It is well for you to know that I mean to be obeyed."

"No!" she answered, and her voice was deep and sad. "You have lost the right to govern me. I have borne much, Louis Pierre, I have suffered and said nothing; but the law has remedies for violence and cruelty, and to the law I shall appeal."

Louis Pierre heard her in dismay. "You would leave me?" he gasped.

"You have made it impossible for me to stay."

She turned to the door. Even then, coming to the outlook as she was, any signs of resistance from him would have brought her back; but he was too overwhelmed by amazement and shame at the sudden turn in affairs to do anything but stare after her helplessly. It was only when the last echo of her footsteps died away in the distance, when the last glimpse of her cottonade gown disap-

pear from the rosebushes, that the full consciousness of what had happened rushed over him. Then with a cry of unutterable grief he threw himself downward on his bed: "Mon Dieu, Mon Dieu! What have I done? What shall I do without her?"

Meanwhile Madame, with spinning brain and fast-throbbing heart, had hastened across the fields to Monsieur Grand's. Pere Julien called to her as she passed his house, but she hurried on blindly. This was no case for priestly counsel; only the law would help her now. Freedom—peace of heart and mind were what she craved and what the law could give her by separating her from a husband who ill-treated her! The pent-up agony of the past few weeks swept over her like hot lava. She tingled from head to foot with shame, with womanly indignation. The blow on her cheek hurt her no more than the blow to her pride.

When she reached Monsieur Grand's night had fallen and the plantation house was ablaze with light. The young people were entertaining and the servant who let her in seemed doubtful if his master would see her.

"Tell him it is Madame Pierre," she bade him. "He will surely see me then."

And a few minutes later the planter, who was lawyer as well, arrived. He was in evening dress and wore a rose in his buttonhole. From the rooms behind came the notes of a violin and the murmur of young voices. The contrast between this careless gaiety and her own anguish hurt Madame sorely.

"Madame Louis Pierre, welcome!" cried Monsieur Grand cordially. "How are you and that good husband of yours, and what brings you here at this hour?"

"I am in trouble, Monsieur, and need your help. Can I see you alone?"

Thinking it was some trivial annoyance that a word could set right, he led the way to his study, but when the woman poured out her story with quivering lips and shaking voice his face grew grave and anxious. He liked the old couple sincerely; he had known them from boyhood, and this terrible misunderstanding in the twilight of their days was hard to explain. He said as much to Madame, who answered bitterly: "It was the money, Monsieur; Antoine Giro's legacy! He knew it would breed trouble between us and he was right. We have not known one peaceful hour since it came."

Monsieur Grand had her interests so sincerely at heart that he argued earnestly against divorce, hoping that after reflection it would not be wanted, but Madame, who had borne so much, seemed to have suddenly reached the limit of endurance.

"I cannot bear it," she moaned. "I must be free. The law must help me."

"The law can help you, Madame, but are you sure that this move is for your best happiness?"

"Mon Dieu! You know not what I have suffered, what women are made to bear!"

"Very well, I will see to the application being made out. It will take time. Where shall I see you?"

"At Coulee Croche, Monsieur. There is death and suffering there, and I go to help them. It is all I can do, and perhaps," bitterly, "I may take the fever and die."

After a few words of kindly advice and encouragement, Monsieur Grand showed his visitor to the door. As she passed through the hall, a girl in white, with roses nodding on her breast, went by laughing and talking with a man. Their faces were full of gladness.

"Poor thing!" thought Madame as she stumbled through the darkness. "Poor, young thing! I wonder if he will ever strike her!"

"What a sad face that old woman had," said the girl to her companion later. "I can't get it out of my mind. She looked as if she had received a death blow."

III.

Madame Pierre looked at the doctor beseechingly. "No hope!" she repeated. "Ah, monsieur, try and save him; he has learned to know me. He calls me grandmother. He is like the little child I lost long ago!"

THE ORPHANS
(By WALTER EMANUEL).

Opposites are said to get on best together. The pity was that Herbert and Guy Campbell did not know this. Assuredly there were never two brothers more different; it was a matter of common talk. One found it hard to believe they were children of the same parents, so entirely were they out of sympathy with one another. "Introduce your friend to me," said a lady to Guy one day. "He is not my friend, he is my brother," answered Guy. That perhaps summed up the situation neatly. They differed in everything—appearance, manners, tastes. At the time of which I am writing Herbert was twenty-two, Guy twenty-one. Herbert was pale, thin in the body, and long-faced. Guy, on the other hand, was well set up and fresh-complexioned. Herbert made a capital mourner, while Guy spoilt funerals by his ruddiness. Guy was always correctly dressed, Herbert never. This last, by the bye, was the one failing of Herbert's which Guy found it most difficult to forgive. To proceed: Guy's manner was breezy, Herbert's polite even to greasiness. Herbert was a teetotaler and vegetarian. Guy was a distinguished football-player. Guy was generous, Herbert a philanthropist. Guy was healthy, Herbert religious. The elder brother even helped at Sunday-schools, and at one time sang in a choir. It is not for me to say which of the two I preferred. Rightly or wrongly, Guy was the more popular. That is to say, among friends of the family. Herbert, I believe, had a great following among his social and mental inferiors. He founded several societies and debating clubs for poor lads, and, I have heard, was looked up to a great deal down there—was, among these people, quite a little god in his way. His younger brother's criticisms must have chafed him the more on this account, though he had a habit of listening to them without retort—which (and perhaps he knew it) would rile Guy more than anything. Guy's motto, on the other hand, was, if a man offers you his cheek, cheek him back.

Already when youngsters the difference had made itself marked. Herbert would generally be top of his class, while Guy was the most popular boy in the school. It was regrettable that their mother should have been taken from them when they were quite young. A mother's influence might have altered things. Their father never troubled much about them in his lifetime. On his death, about two years before, he had left them the fine house in Queensborough Crescent on condition that they lived together until marriage.

That is how they came to be under the same roof. But for this they certainly would have separated.

It had, however, the effect of giving a matrimonial bent to their thoughts, for each resolved that, to be quit of the other, he would marry as soon as possible. And so it came that they ultimately found a point as to which they were both in agreement, which led to more violent disagreement than had anything else; for, as luck would have it, one and the same damsel found favor in the eyes of both. It was really unfortunate.

As the two never paid visits together and seldom spoke to one another, it was some time before they made the discovery. It came out quite by accident. At dinner one evening Guy remarked that he was going to the Empire, and Herbert asked him why he did not marry. Guy failed to see what that had to do with Herbert, but as a matter of fact he would not mind telling him he was thinking of taking the plunge. "And it is a girl I believe you know. I've only got to lift my little finger and she'll have me. It's little Mabel Chatsworth."

Herbert turned crimson.

"You look very ill all of a sudden," said Guy.

"Oh, it's nothing," said Herbert. "You are not engaged, of course?"

"No. Why?"

"Oh, only curiosity."

"That's a lie."

"You are polite."

"What made you color up?"

No answer.

"Surely you haven't—but no, it's too ridiculous; she wouldn't look at you. You haven't been having the impertinence to make love to her?"

"I have a very high opinion of Miss Chatsworth, and I have reason to believe that, like everyone else but you, she has the same opinion of me."

"Great Scott! A mug like you! What confounded cheek!"

"And as for cheek, if there is any cheek in the matter, it is on your part—your daring to aspire to her."

"What do you mean?"

"A man of your morals."

"You fool!"

In justice to Guy, I would here say—though I have no wish to rob Guy of the reader's sympathies—that Herbert had a very exaggerated idea of his brother's wickedness. He had really no reason to be so jealous.

"You fool!" repeated Guy. "You just drop that, you precious saint. You know you are only good yourself because you are frightened of the expense of being bad."

"Thank you."

A short silence.

"You really mean to say you are going to propose to Mabel?" blurted out Guy.

"Certainly—as you ask it."

"Good heavens! You must please excuse my laughing. Imagine Mabel slumping, for instance!"

"You managed that forced laugh very

well"—Herbert to-day; love work among mutual concord."

"You seem to think the thing out well. Have you been sneaking round there often?"

"I have frequently visited Miss Chatsworth, and with the approbation of her mother, who has always been present."

Guy thought for a minute and resolved to try diplomacy.

"I suppose you know marriage is a pretty expensive business," he said.

"It need not be."

"So you are going to do the whole thing meanly, are you?" he burst out. "But what confounded cheek your having anything to do with her at all! Why don't you marry one of your own Bible Christians, or whatever you call 'em! Not that Mabel would have you, though."

"That's all right, then. As she won't have me, why excite yourself? I happen to differ. We'll let the matter drop before one of us gets angry."

"No, we won't. You're not going to have her, I am."

"You? Why, you are not fit to black her boots."

Guy clenched his fists, and Herbert thought he would be going. It was some time since Guy had actually hit his brother. As he was strong, so he was merciful—as a rule. But Herbert had once begun to quote Scripture to him.

"Oh, I'm not fit to black her boots, ain't I? Well, if you are not very careful, you will find I am fit enough to black your eye." The little sally pleased Guy, and he unclenched his fists.

"This is carrying out our father's last wish that we should live together in amity, isn't it?" remarked Herbert, his hand still on the door-handle.

"I do live in amity; it's you who don't," retorted Guy. Which was showy but Irish.

"All the same, I suppose it is something that such a pure thought as marriage should have entered your head."

"Now look here, you just drop your pi, rot, because I won't have it. Take your plaster face away, do. It gives me indigestion, you—you potted missionary!"

So Herbert went. The man with the strong right arm generally has the last word in an argument.

The next day, it so chanced, was the Chatsworths' "At Home" day, and at three o'clock punctually Guy made his appearance in the hall even better groomed than usual. He began to brush a hat. Two minutes later the study door opened and Herbert emerged and then had made an attempt to smarten himself up by means of a bright scarlet tie. The race for the bride was evidently about to begin.

Guy scowled at his brother. "Where are you off to?" asked Herbert pleasantly, as though nothing had happened on the previous day.

"Find out!"

"Oh, I'm going there as well."

"In that tie?"

"Yes."

"Right. Only I may as well tell you, for the sake of the good name of our family, that people do not propose at 'At Homes.'"

"Thank you, but who said I was going to propose?" asked Herbert, and he reached up to the rack for his hat. He took one down, looked inside it, and put it back again. Then he watched Guy brushing his. Guy was taking some trouble over it. Herbert smiled. The more Guy brushed, the more Herbert smiled. When Guy had quite finished, Herbert said: "Really, that was nice of you, Guy, to brush my hat." Guy looked at it, tried it on, found it was Herbert's, and then threw it with great force to the end of the passage. It was indefensible of him. "What right have you to a decent hat, you smug-faced jap-dog!" he cried. "That's just like a Christian not to tell me before." And he took his own hat from the rack and strode out of the house.

It was an inauspicious beginning.

Herbert, smiling a little less, picked up his injured headgear, knocked it into shape, and hurried after Guy.

He found him on the Chatsworths' door-step. A struggle would have been ridiculous, so Guy merely turned his back on his brother. The two were announced together and shown into the drawing room. There was no one there but Mabel and a little bondler named Stutchberry. Stutchberry had been at school with Herbert and Guy—had, in fact, been Guy's fag, and was altogether an absurd little person. Mabel (who looked prettier than ever) made no disguise of the fact that she was pleased to see the brethren.

"Now this is nice," she said, "and fancy you two coming together!"

"We didn't come together; we met outside," explained Guy.


"Oh, well, you must let me introduce you to one another." Then—"Mr Guy Campbell, Mr Herbert Campbell; Mr Herbert Campbell, Mr Guy Campbell," she laughed—and she made them shake hands! It is really quite touching to see the two dear little boys paying visits together," she declared. It was a very silly joke.

Then Stutchberry—who was always bad form—said, "Well, fancy meeting you here, Tubby and Freak-face!" Those had been their nicknames at school, but there was no need to have mentioned it.

Then Mabel looked at Stutchberry and Stutchberry looked at Mabel; and Mabel said, "Shall we tell them?" and Stutchberry said "Yes."

"Well," said Mabel mysteriously, "you two and Stutchberry will have to be

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Absolutely CURE
BILIOUSNESS.
SICK HEADACHE.
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They TOUCH the LIVER

CARTER'S

Be SURE they are

MISS TITTELL BRUNE.

A CHARMING ACTRESS.
EXPONENT OF L'AIGLON.
SHE TALKS OF HER ART.
AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

Miss Tittell Brune, whose impersonation of the Duke of Reichstadt, in Edmond Rostand's pathetic drama, *L'Aiglon*, is nightly witnessed by large and delighted houses at the Princess's Theatre, was interviewed by a representative of "The Weekly Times." The interview took place in Miss Brune's room at the theatre just before the performance began.

The play itself is a fine poetic work, and is admitted to be the masterpiece of M. Rostand, which, seeing that he is the author of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, is praise of a very high character. But the ideas of M. Rostand reach us only as they pass through the alchemy of Miss Brune's mind, and it is thus that strong interest is aroused in the personality of the actress herself.

The lady whose interpretation is thus successful was originally intended for a musical career, being entered when quite young at Madame Therber's Conservatorium, New York. Her voice was satisfactorily reported on, and she became subsequently a pupil of Sapia.

But Miss Brune is well able to tell her own story. She says:—

"In the meantime, however, I was playing small parts in one of the leading theatres of New York, and my abilities seemed to be that way, so I finally adopted the dramatic branch of the profession. Whatever I am, I owe to my mother. She devoted herself to my interests, gave up her comforts and travelled with me constantly until her death a few years ago.

"Of course, I owe a great deal to hard work. Even in my smallest parts, when I was the merest beginner, I worked with all my might. And now when I am playing *L'Aiglon* I work, if anything, harder than ever."

"It appears," said our representative, "very heavy part even to those who have the privilege of seeing it from the front."

"It is, indeed. While I was playing Sunday, which you, perhaps, remember, I managed to accept invitations and pay visits, and was the recipient of very much kindness. But *L'Aiglon* takes every particle of my energy. I am obliged to save myself for the evening's work. To accept such kindness as is extended to me is a temptation, but I am compelled to deny myself."

"After that, I need not ask you if *L'Aiglon* is your favorite role?" One does not deny oneself except for one's favorites."

"Well, I think it is so now, though at first I disliked playing a boy's part. I had not done so before. The gestures, the tones, the business, had all to be learnt from the beginning, and then presently they will all have to be put aside when I play another part. But now I think *L'Aiglon* is my favorite part. I saw Bernhardt play it in Paris—I have spent a great part of my life in Paris—but I had then no intention of playing it myself."

"You are yourself called the American Bernhardt, are you not?"

"Oh! That is because I play Sardou's parts in America and because Bernhardt is identified with Sardou in France and England."

"What are your coming roles?"

"Theodora, La Tosca, perhaps Camille, Romeo and Juliet."

"Do you find a greater tax on your powers in portraying a character to which you are naturally antipathetic, such as that of Theodora?"

"That is a little difficult to answer. A character like Sunday, whom all love and commend themselves for loving is in that way an easy task. But take Theodora. She was undoubtedly a courtesan, but even for the women of her kind some excuse may be found. It is often the warmest-hearted who fall. But there will be a section of the audience who will refuse to listen to excuse or to hear a word in her favor. And yet, what can truly be said should be said and heard."

"That brings me," continued Miss Brune, "to another often canvassed question, the morality of the stage itself. Mothers ask me about the temptations to which their daughters are likely to be exposed. I always answer that there may be an evil side to the stage. If so, I am very glad that I know nothing of it. But I don't think the evil is more than exists everywhere. Such as there is comes from outside; among the little stage coterie there is none. The flattering letters that girls receive come all from the public."

"I suppose artists themselves are not affected by the glamor of the stage?"

"The 'glamor of the footlights?' No, I suppose not. But perhaps you mean the glamor that surrounds the hero and heroine," said Miss Brune, with the gayest of gay laughs. "Even that is not so visible to the players as to the spectator."

Coming to the spectators, I find Australian audiences excellent; they are quick, sympathetic, intelligent. They know—you feel that they know—the meaning of a gesture before it is quite complete. They are not afraid to express appreciation. In Sydney, I must have had 1100 or 1200 letters expressing pleasure at my work."

"Do you find yourself," asked our re-

presentative, "like some other famous players, do you find yourself changing your business actually on the stage?"

"Within certain limits, acting must be spontaneous at the moment, and it is bound to change. There are islands—I can find no other word—on which you rest securely, but between those 'islands' one must act as the moment prompts. Then in the end the part will become more fixed. You will learn from experience that a little thing is right and effective, and you will nearly always do it afterwards. There is a mechanical school of acting, in which every movement is stereotyped. It is not that school I follow."



MISS BRUNE AS L'AIGLON.

"But, as I said, I do not make spontaneously an excuse for laxity. I sometimes say, 'I must take it quietly tonight,' but the first round or two of applause fill me with determination to give all that is in me. At the matinees I hear the gentle clapping of the girls' gloved hands, and it has just the same effect as the cheers at night."

"I never forget my work. All day long, as I go about, I am observing and studying human nature. Much may be learned from the unconstrained ways of children."

At this moment the call boy appeared to warn Miss Brune that the play was waiting for her. She kept it still waiting long enough to say "adieu," and the interview was over.

SNAKE-BITE.

THE USE OF ALCOHOL
IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED.
METHOD OF TREATMENT.

On Friday, the 6th inst., Mr Good, a resident of Ryanston, near Powlett River, Gippsland, while cutting grass on his farm, was bitten on the foot by a snake. The reptile fastened its fangs into a portion of the foot which was left exposed by a hole in the boot. He tied a ligature round his leg, the wound was sucked, and Mrs Good drove her husband towards San Remo to procure medical treatment.

On the way Mr Good was recommended to take whisky, as an antidote to the poison, and before his arrival at San Remo the greater part of a quart of whisky had been consumed by him. He was unconscious on reaching the town, and the stomach pump had to be applied to remove the alcohol. Mr Good never regained consciousness, and died twenty-four hours later.

These facts gave rise to an inquiry as to whether the use of alcohol in the case of snake-bite is beneficial or otherwise.

"The indiscriminate and voluminous use of alcohol in cases of snake-bite does much more harm than good," said the chairman of the Board of Public Health. "In fact," he continued, "I should not recommend the use of alcohol in any form to a patient suffering from snake-bite."

"Spirits are not antidotes, but poisons, and when they come in contact with another poison, such as snake poison, they increase rather than diminish the intensity of the latter. The case referred to is not an isolated one. I know from my own personal experience that patients, especially in the country, have reached the surgery more under the influence of alcohol spirit than that of the snake spirit."

"No, I should not recommend the use of spirits in quantities. If stimulants

JUPITER. ITS NEW SATELLITE.

OBSERVATORY GETS A CABLE MESSAGE.

POSITION OF No. 6.

INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

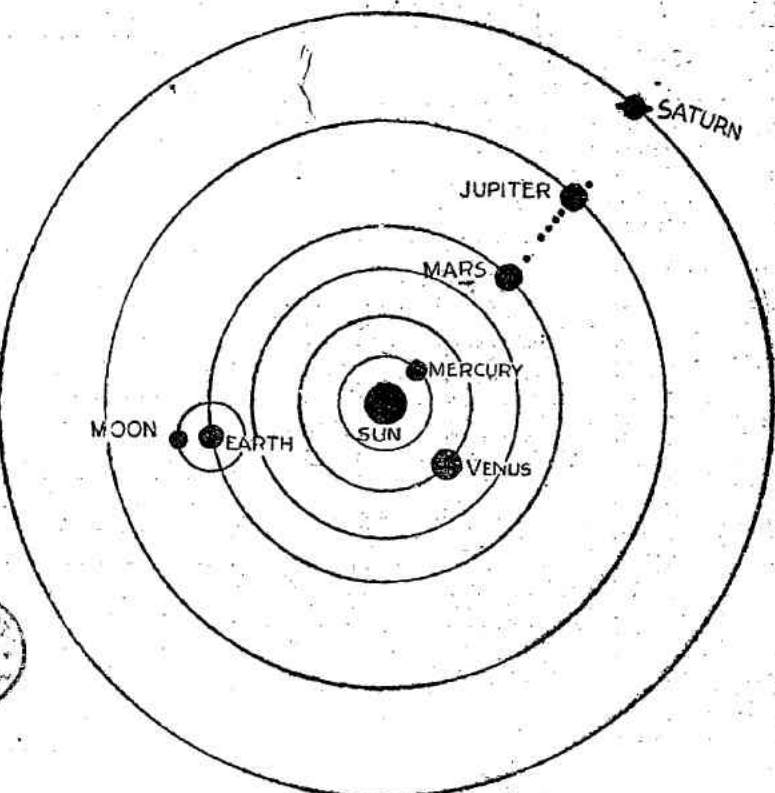
The announcement of the discovery of an additional satellite in the solar system marks an event of more than ordinary importance in the astronomical world, and the fact that this is the second discovery of the kind made at the Lick Observatory adds further distinction to what is regarded as one of the foremost Observatories in the world.

Through the courteous assistance of Mr Baracchi, of the Melbourne Observatory, we present our readers with an in-

teresting diagram, showing the position of Jupiter in the Solar System, and the relative distances of the six satellites from the planet. A diagram of the latter was rendered possible by the opportune arrival of the cable from the Lick Observatory, stating the position in the

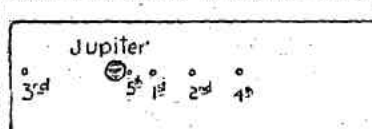
position of Jupiter, which is in a temperature not much short of incandescence, is hardly solidified, so it is barely worth mentioning that there is no individual there to complain of the unconscionably long period of the annual round.

The planet Jupiter revolves round the sun once in eleven years and ten months, and rotates on its own axis in about ten hours. By the time you had dressed and shaved there, it would be time to go to bed. On the other hand, it may be remarked that the man who is seventy



THE SOLAR SYSTEM

teresting diagram, showing the position of Jupiter in the Solar System, and the relative distances of the six satellites from the planet. A diagram of the latter was rendered possible by the opportune arrival of the cable from the Lick Observatory, stating the position in the



RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE SATELLITES OF JUPITER.

heavens of the astronomical stranger, and our diagram is the first illustrating the subject published in Australia.

THE LARGEST PLANET.

Jupiter is the largest of the planets which are seen on the diagram, and is 483 million miles from the sun, the earth being but 92 million miles distant from

years old here would be but six and a half according to the annual revolution

THE SIX SATELLITES.

The four satellites of Jupiter which were discovered by Galileo in 1610 were called the first, second, third and fourth, according to their distance from the

planet, around which it revolves in hours 37 minutes.

The sixth satellite, according to a message received at the Observatory day, is distant 45 minutes from centre of the planet, and thus a long way the farthest moved. It is a very minute orb being in the 14th magnitude, and near the limits of actual visibility. has been discovered by aid of the Cassegrain reflector by Professor Perrine, of Lick University, who is widely known astronomical circles, and the discovery marks an achievement which will be hailed with greatest interest by scientists the world over.

"The orbits of all the satellites almost circular, and lie almost in plane of Jupiter's equator," observed Baracchi to our representative. "see the orbits here edgewise, and that why the satellites appear to be in straight line."

give him anything he asked for. Almost any food can be given, but it is rarely that a sufferer from snake-bite can retain food long.

THE FIRST DONKEY.

STOCKS AND TREADMILL.
AN OLD COLONIST'S REMINISCENCES.

Mr P. Reid, of Mitchell street, Bairnsdale, writes:—"In your issue of the 7th inst. I noticed an article headed 'Donkeys on St. Kilda Beach,' in which it is stated that the late Mr John Thomas Smith, the second Mayor of Melbourne, prided himself on the fact that he introduced the first donkey into Victoria. Years before he imported his donkey (about 1842) a Mr Joseph Fog, a baker in Queen street, had a small donkey running in his baker's cart."

"About the same time (1842) a Mr Watson imported some very fine asses. After keeping them in Melbourne for a short time he went up to Faithful's Creek, a few miles beyond Euroa, where he opened a public house, and was always known as 'Donkey Watson.'"

"I think the late Mr J. T. Smith must have known of these facts, for he lived in the same street as the baker, Fog, and close to where Watson kept his asses for a time."

"In the same issue of your paper I see it is stated that 'the Chief Secretary quite shamelessly admitted to a 'Weekly Times' reporter a few weeks ago that he 'had no stocks in stock,' and the probability was that if a settler had to be made

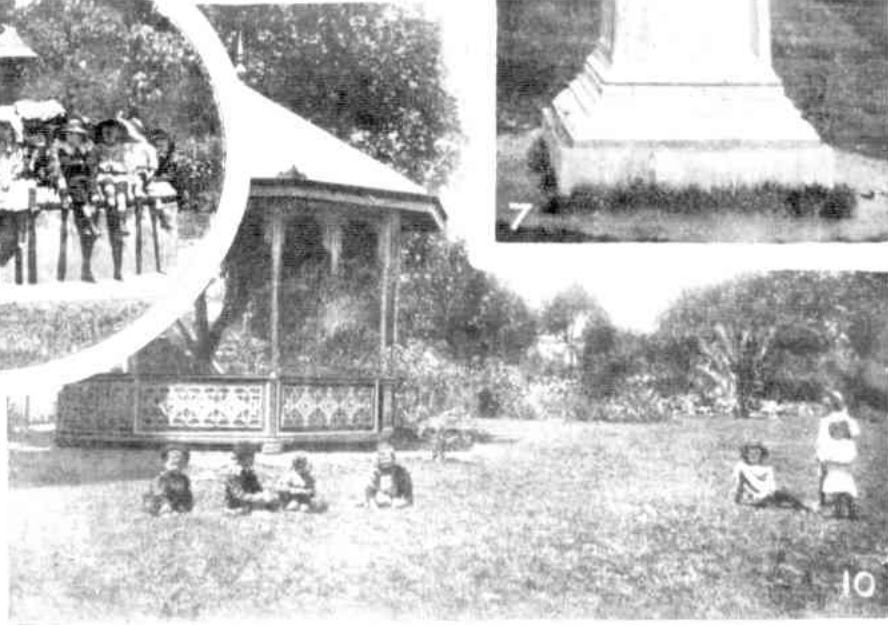
in a hurry it would be difficult to find pattern for the carpenter to work on."

"Should the stocks be wanted in hurry at any time I could furnish a pattern of those that were fixed on the bank where the Custom House now stands some sixty years ago."

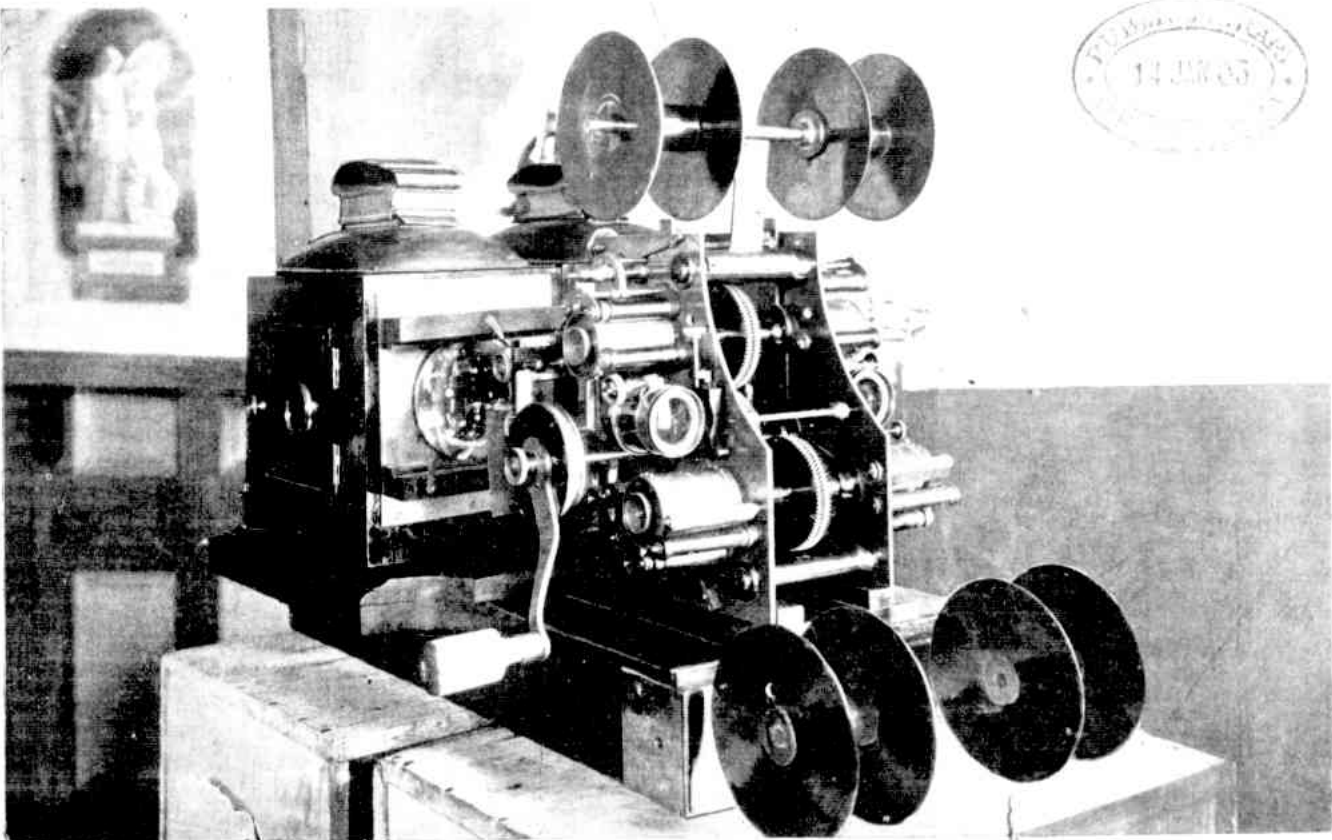
"It may be news to some of your readers that the treadmill was made use of as a mode of punishment in the early days of the colony. It was housed in a building not far from where Spencer street station now stands."

As to the first donkey imported, it was well known that Mr J. T. Smith claimed to have introduced it on his return to the colony from a trip to England, whither it was said that he went in expectation of being knighted. The claim was generally admitted. Mr Smith was the subject of one of the well-known series of caricature portraits published thirty years ago by "The Weekly Times," and below his portrait was the legend—"He imported the first donkey." There was no contradiction at that time, but Mr Reid now speaks of his own knowledge. As to the existence of stocks in Victoria, we speak of our own knowledge, when we say that at least up to 1870 a set of them remained in the police court yard at Geelong. What afterwards became of them, and also of some old "indents" of convict ships which were at the same time in the offices of the Geelong Police Court, we cannot say. The "indents" were leather bound books containing the names and the most minute description of all the convicts to "Botany Bay" early in the last century. Some of the convicts were mere children, their offences trivial, and their sentences heavy, such, for instance, of a girl of fifteen been sentenced seven years' transportation for stealing a silver spoon.

Suburban Public Gardens: Prahran and Malvern.



1. Mr G. BUCKINGHAM (in charge of the Victoria Gardens, Prahran). 2. A MORNING WALK IN THE MALVERN GARDENS. 3. THE LAWN, MALVERN GARDENS. 4. Mr T. W. POCKETT (in charge of the Malvern Gardens). 5. A SHADY WALK IN THE PRAHRAN GARDENS. 6. IN THE VICTORIA GARDENS, PRAHRAN. 7. STATUE OF LIBERTY, VICTORIA GARDENS, PRAHRAN. 8. WATER LILY POND AND FOUNTAIN, MALVERN. 9. YOUNG PRAHRAN. 10. IN THE PRAHRAN GARDENS. (Photos by R. Scholtz)

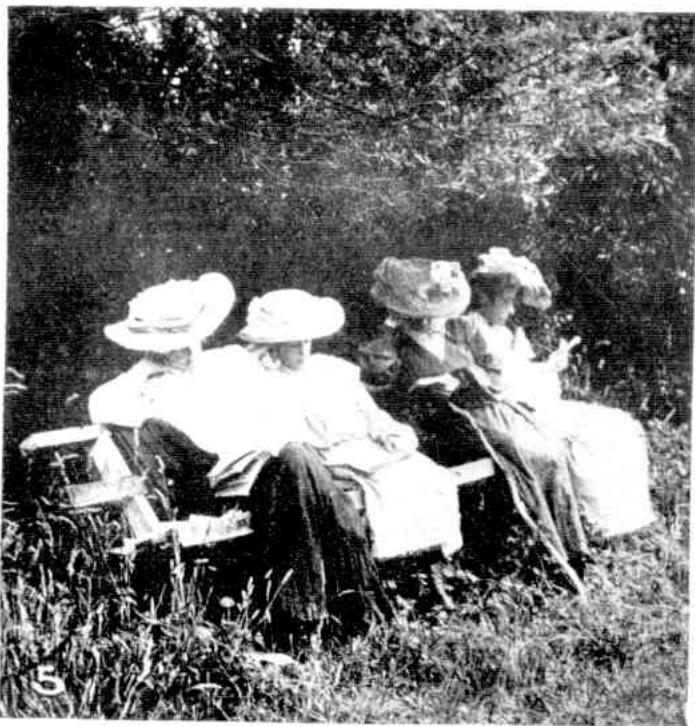
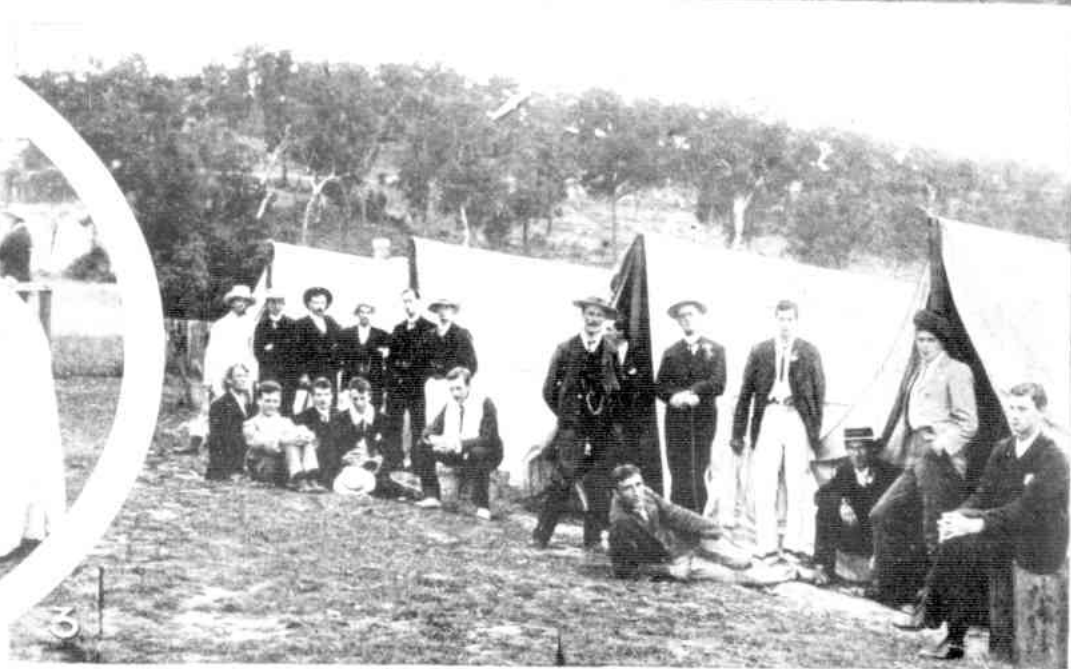


THE DRAMAGRAPH
A NEW AUSTRALIAN CINEMATOGRAPH INVENTION.



THE INVENTOR ROBERT THORN HAINES.
(Photo. by Mendelsohn and Co.)

JAN.



THE YOUNG MEN OF CAMP ... A WELL-DESERVED
CHRISTIAN ENTERTAINMENT AT HEALESVILLE

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4. STUDYING UNDER PLEASANT CIRCUMSTANCES



LATE (REV) 0-100 WHITE



Back Row, standing (reading from right to left)—Roy Edwards, Edna Allen, ———, Alma Chapman, Lucy Hewson, E. R. Hammet, Alf Bowman, Emily Allen, Nora M'Namara and Leslie Dowel. Centre Row—Fred Dowel, John Edwards, Eva Laurens, Renee Allen, ———, Mrs M'Kinnon, Maggie Green. Seated in front.———, Bert Trewin, Maud Trewin, Susan Brown, Ernest Thorne. (For particulars see page 18.)
Violet Bowman. (Photo by W. J. Slouti.)

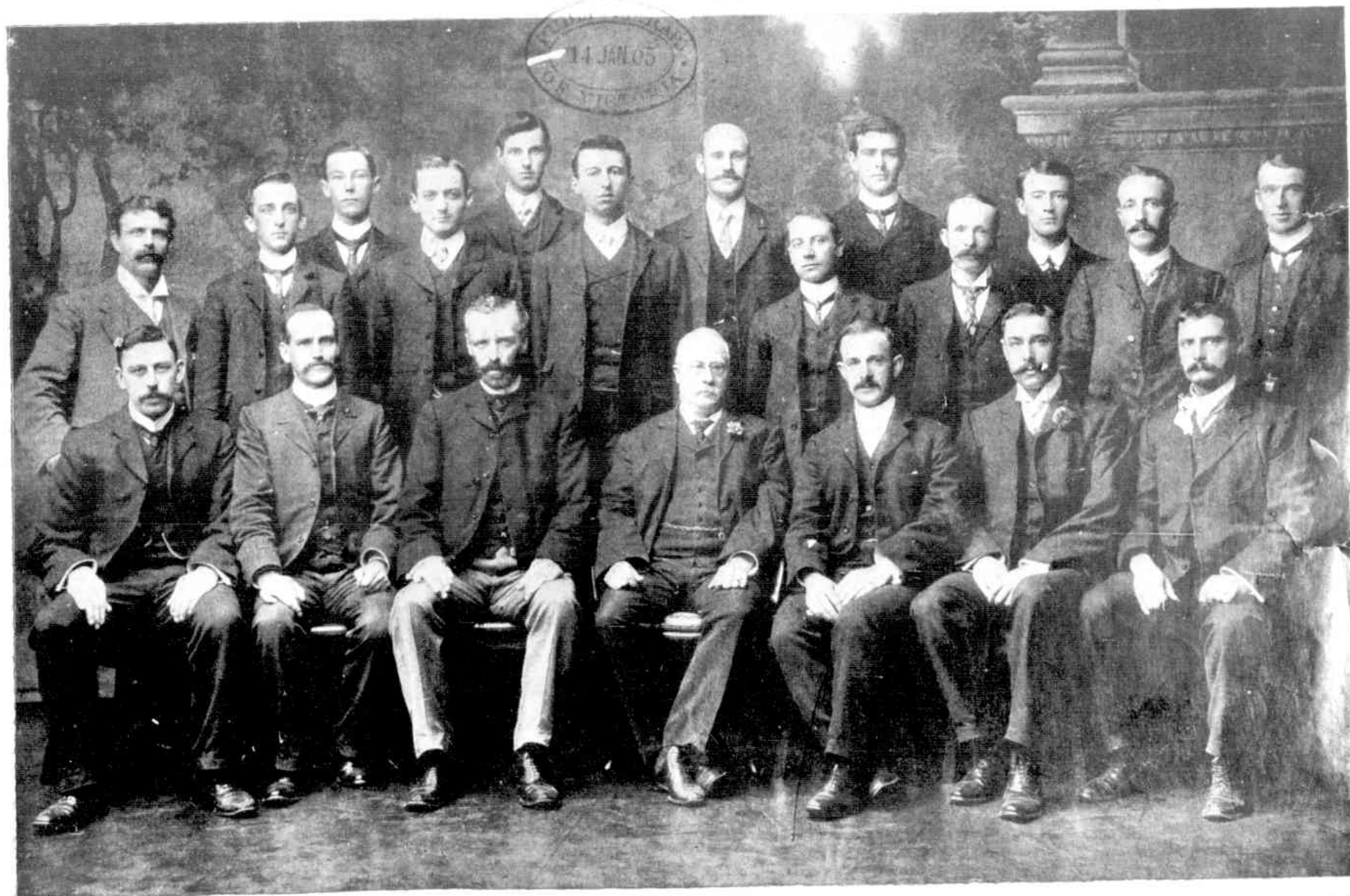


LATE VERY REV. JOSEPH DALTON, S.J.,
For years head of St. Patrick's College, Mel-
bourne, founder of St. Xavier's College, Kew
and superior of the Jesuit Order in Melbourne
and Sydney, who died on the 4th inst.



THRESHING ON THE BALMORE STATION, NEAR PAKENHAM.

Federal Financiers.



Sitting (reading from left to right)—A. Balle (Senior Correspondent), Clerk; F. J. Ross (Chief Clerk); G. T. Allen (Secretary); Sir George Turner (Federal Treasurer); J. R. Collins (Accountant); C. J. Keritty (Sub-Accountant); J. T. Heathershaw (Public Ledger Keeper); Standing—W. H. Osborne, H. J. Sheahan, H. W. Lloyd, E. W. T. Vandell, A. Kelly, D. Ferguson, T. Jolliffe, J. P. D. Meagher, W. H. Loughrey, S. MacFarlane, J. Anderson, M. McGee, G. Sharp.

THE COMMONWEALTH TREASURER AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

The Twelfth Australian Eleven.



TOP ROW.—(Reading from left to right)—S. E. Gregory (N.S.W.), A. J. Hopkins (N.S.W.), Clem Hill (S.A.), R. A. Duff (N.S.W.), W. W. Armstrong (V.), J. J. Kelly (N.S.W.), (S.A.), F. Laver (V.), Mannger, M. A. Noble (N.S.W.).
 BOTTOM ROW.—V. Trumper (N.S.W.), P. Newland (S.A.), D. R. A. Gehrs (S.A.), C. McLeod (V.), A. Cotter (N.S.W.), W. Howell (N.S.W.).
 CENTRE ROW.—J. Darling
 THE FOURTEEN PLAYERS AND BUSINESS MANAGER SELECTED.
 (Photos. of Cotter, Darling, and Howell by Talma).



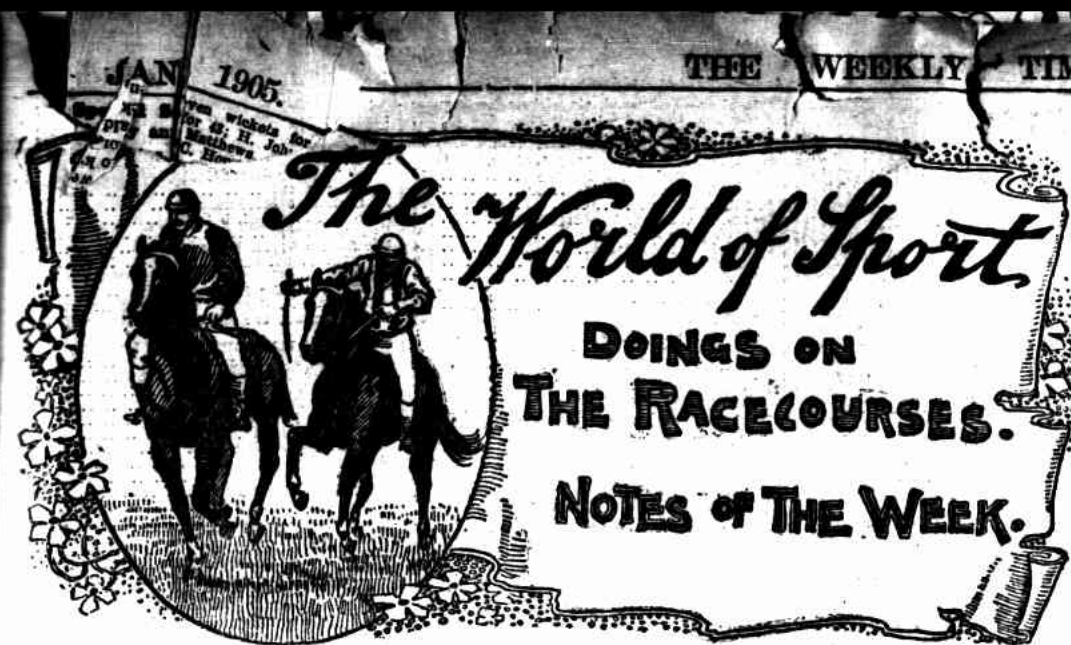
THE NEW WING OF ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, FITZROY.



THE LATE MR T. K. JOHNSTON.
 Who died suddenly at Cavill's Baths, Sydney,
 on Saturday last.



THE LATE MR MONTAGU PYM.
 Who died on Sunday, at the age of 51 years.
 (Photos. by Johnstone, O'Shannessy and Co.)
 DEATHS OF PROMINENT MEMBERS OF
 THE MELBOURNE STOCK EXCHANGE.



RACING FIXTURES.

VICTORIA.

JANUARY.

14. Mentone Racing Club.
15. Kilmore Turf Club.
16. Trafalgar Turf Club.
17. Warrnambool Racing Club.
18. Victoria Amateur Turf Club.
19. Moonee Valley Racing Club.
20. Geelong Turf Club.
21. Great Southern Racing Club (Nyer).
22. Horsham and Elmore Racing Club.
23. Bendigo Park Racing Club.
24. Sandhurst Turf Club.
25. Woodend Race Club.
26. Benalla Racing Club.
27. Outhwaite Race Club.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

JANUARY.

1. Canterbury Park Races.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

JANUARY.

1. Adelaide R.C. meeting.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

THE TURE.

Argument (San Remo) asks—Is Newhaven registered as a thoroughbred stallion according to the English Stud Book?—No.
20. (Wedona) asks—Is Goldfinger, now running as a scribehorse, identical with Goldfinger who won a hurdle race at Caulfield about four years ago?—Yes.

CARDS.

CRIBBAGE.

Fig (Korumburra) asks—If a player turns up the Jack, and fails to score a pair for "his heels," can he take them after playing his last card?—Not according to the strict game.

CRICKET.

Inquirer—"The Weekly Times" containing special cricket supplement, with scores of 50 in first-class matches, was published on 6th April, 1905. We have no available copy for sale.

ANTICIPATIONS.

By "Caspian."

MENTONE RACES.

MAIDEN PLATE.

- ENCOUNTER 1
BOIDOL 2
MORNING MIST 3
HURDLE RACE.
SPECULATION 1
GLARE 2
BURNSIDE 3
TRIAL HANDICAP.
HADJI 1
PHAROS 2
CHISS 3
MENTONE CUP.
RESCUED 1
LIEUTENANT BILL 2
CLUSTER 3
STEEPLECHASE.
ROBGILL 1
ABERFOYLE 2
SIGNET 3
WELTER HANDICAP.
DISTRACTION 1
MELANCTHON 2
GIGGLES 3

OWNERS REMINDED.

Mr A. H. Cox will receive entries next Monday, at the club's office, Kirk's Bazaar, for the Moonee Valley races to be run on 25th January.

Melba Accordeons.



No. 717 Melba.

Eight-fold double bellows, nickel bound corners, three sets reeds, three stops, black polished case.

MELBA ACCORDEONS are sterling instruments, at low prices, made of the best material only by skilled mechanics. The reeds, specially tuned by experts, are loud and sonorous. We have them at all prices from 6s 6d, 7s 6d, 10s, 12s, 20s, 30s.

THIS IS A LINE OF EXTRAORDINARY VALUE.

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223 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE.

A BUDGET OF GOSSIP.

By "Caspian."

Mentone races.

The fixture for (to-day) Saturday.

The past week has been extremely quiet for racing.

Four first favorites won at the Kyneton district races on Wednesday.

Cardoon has been purchased by Mr Philip Lock, of Warrnambool.

J. Donnelly will have charge of Mr C. Kidman's horses at Flemington.

Tradition claimed two winners at the Hamilton races held yesterday.

Mr Pentreath has been elected president of the Miliamo Race Club.

Seakale, after a short spell, has been put into work again at Flemington.

No less than five "odds on" favorites won at the Hamilton races on Wednesday.

A profit of £170 was made over the recent meeting of Brisbane Tattersall's Club.

A. F. Bradshaw has been appointed handicapper to the Mansfield Jockey Club.

Irish horses on the flat won the magnificent sum of £104,139 last season in England.

Walter Hickenbotham has returned Sport Royal to his owner in West Australia.

Sea Gem, by Portsea from Cat's Eye, has been put in work at Flemington, after a spell.

R. Lewis was the most successful rider at the Kyneton district race meeting on Wednesday.

The entries for the Newmarket Handicap this year show an increase of eleven over those of last year.

His Grace, by Khedive, was sold on Monday by Messrs W. C. Yulle and Co., to Mr S. Miller, for 30 guineas.

S. Griffiths has purchased Roodoch, whom he intends taking over to Tasmania in company with Blair.

Two odds on favorites in Baritone and Glare won in succession at the Kyneton District races on Wednesday.

Flying Fox's progeny won £53,000 in Stakes in France last year, which is a record in that country for any one stallion.

N. Godby, the Sydney light-weight jockey, has gone over to Tasmania to assist at the Hobart and Launceston meetings.

Mr W. Rathbone, a well-known New Zealand sportsman, who raced Merganser and Gossander, died on December 24.

Nearly all the best horses of New South Wales have been entered for the V.R.C. Newmarket Handicap and Australian Cup.

Backers made a good beginning at the inaugural meeting of the Kyneton District races in backing the first two winners.

The Inaugural Handicap, the principal event at the Kyneton races on Wednesday, was won by Rock Crystal, by Gibraltar.

The Warwick Farm (N.S.W.) races held last Saturday provided a pleasant afternoon's sport for the race-goers of Sydney.

Mr T. S. Clibborn, the secretary of the A.J.C., received a capital entry on Monday for the Doncaster Handicap and Sydney Cup.

Blue Spec, the Western Australian horse, has been added to the list of

horses in the Australian Cup and Champion Stakes.

A satisfactory entry was received on Monday by Mr Thos. Monie, for the V.A.T.C. races, to be held at Caulfield on the 21st of January.

At the Hawke's Bay (N.Z.) races, held recently, The Possible and The Officer, each bred by Mr S. G. Cook, of this State, claimed a winner at the meeting.

Mr F. W. Fairbairn has been elected president of the Leigh Road Racing Club. The V.R.C. has granted the 14th of February a day on which the club may race.

The weights for the A.J.C. Doncaster Handicap and Sydney Cup will not be declared until the Newmarket Handicap and Australian Cup have been decided.

Argentine, the Sydney gelding, was sold privately last week to Mr J. Stewart for £50, on the condition that £25 out of his first win is to go to his late owner, W. Kelso.

The action of the V.A.T.C. in raising the added money in the Oakleigh Plate from 500 sovs. to 800 sovs. has called for and received a good response from horse-owners.

Bumlo, by Bill of Portland from Cooya, who was bought a few months ago on behalf of the Japanese Government, is reported to have died soon after reaching Japan.

Cruciform, one of the grandest mares New Zealand has produced has run her last race. Mr Stead's mare will now retire to the more genial quarters of the stud paddock.

Emmie, Carmenita, and Tricium arrived in Sydney from Melbourne during the week after a visit to Wallace. Emmie has a Wallace colt at foot, and Tricium a colt by Grafton.

Mr Wm. Bass, having failed to obtain a subscription to Gallinule, has decided to mate the famous English mare Sceptre with Cyllene, who stands at Egerton House, Newmarket.

Convoy, the New Zealand horse, was nominated for the Sydney Cup. The rule with regard to nominations had not been complied with, therefore he was not included in the list.

Cunstock and Manlock, nominated in Western Australia, have to be added to the official list of entries for the Oakleigh Plate. They are also included in the Newmarket Handicap.

May Lord was entrusted with most money on Saturday in the Welter Mile at Warwick Farm. He finished out of a place, and the race was won by Loch Nenagh, by Lochiel from Pride.

Despite the great heat prevailing on Wednesday the inaugural meeting of the Kyneton District Race Club drew a fairly numerous gathering of metropolitan as well as Bendigo and local sports.

Maribyrnong races drew a big crowd last Saturday, and provided visitors to this prettily situated racecourse with a capital afternoon's sport. Backers, however, were not very successful in picking the winners.

Encounter, who ran second in the Maiden Plate, on Saturday, at Maribyrnong, is rather a nice-looking filly, by Wallace. She was not in her best "racing trim," and may be seen to more advantage later on.

Carolyn, a well-known horseman, who met with a very serious accident on New Year's Day at Tallangatta races, through his mount falling on him and causing concussion of the brain, is progressing as well as can be expected.

Mallison was accorded most support for the Farm Stakes on Saturday at Warwick Farm (N.S.W.) races. The favorite, however, had to lower his colors to Makatu, by Goso, from Fisher Girl. The winner is only a pony.

Mr H. Oxenham, the well-known Sydney bookmaker, and owner of racehorses, who recently had to undergo a painful operation, has recovered sufficiently to

leave the private hospital and return to his home at Randwick.

W. Kelso provided the favorite on Saturday at Warwick Farm for the Nursery Handicap in Woodlander. The favorite managed to get home after a great race with Lady Voyou. Woodlander is by Simmer from Forestette.

Lord Boyne, who has been running consistently of late in Sydney, won the Warwick Handicap on Saturday at Warwick Farm (N.S.W.) races. The son of Nobleman and Party started favorite, and won easily from Gerardy.

If the number of entries give any indication of the success of a race meeting, then the Mentone fixture of to-day (Saturday) is assured. Mr Ashe, the secretary, received no less than 122 entries on Monday for the different events.

The Hon. Thos. Reibey, the well-known Tasmanian sportsman, was so pleased with H. Roles for riding Sentry and Moana to victory at Carrick that he took from his pocket a handsome gold chronometer and presented it to the jockey.

Mr Adrian Knox, one of the A.J.C. committee, has named his two-year-old colt, by Voyou (imp.) from Blowing Stone (imp.)—Bluster. This filly was bred by Mr F. Foy, and on the score of breeding should be a success on the racecourse.

Cheers left Newmarket, England, last month, for Russia, where he will probably be sent to the stud. He is a five-year-old by Persimmon out of Applause, and was owned by the Duke of Devonshire, for whom in 1902 he won the Eclipse Stakes.

The Amazon gave Mr S. G. Cook a winning turn at Maribyrnong on Saturday, when she won the Maiden Plate. The daughter of The Admiral and The Dauphine started favorite in a field of fifteen runners, and won rather easily at the finish from Encounter.

Notwithstanding the poor display made by Brownlock in the V.R.C. New Year's Day Hurdle Race, Mr W. Pearson's gelding started at even money for the Hurdle Race at Maribyrnong. The son of Firelock and Vindicator never left the issue in doubt, and won handsomely from Maine.

Mr A. H. Cox, the secretary of the Moonee Valley Race Club, announces elsewhere the conditions of the programme to be decided at the "Valley" on 25th January. The two principal items of interest to horse-owners and trainers will be the Welter Purse and Plate, of 50 sovs. each.

At the Wellington Park (N.Z.) yearling sales recently held, F. Musgrave purchased on behalf of Mr J. Wren a colt by Hotchkiss from Edith Coreton (daughter of Frailty) for 410 guineas, and another by Menschikoff from Sunningdale by Hampden for 300 guineas. Several lots were purchased for West Australia.

Once more Lieutenant Bill was entrusted with the confidence of his stable. He was supported solidly on Saturday for the Maribyrnong Handicap, but was easily beaten at the finish by Impress. The winner is by Wallace from Footprint, and carried the livery of Mr A. McCracken, one of the committee of the V.R.C.

Merooen was favored for the Riverside Purse, but she once more ran disappointingly. In the end the race was won easily by Loch Hunter, who was well backed. The winner was bred in New South Wales, where he won a few small races. He is by Lochinvar (son of Grandmaster) from Huntress.

Mr J. S. Clarke's chestnut horse, Mark Time, further enhanced his reputation at Kempton Park, England, last month, by winning the hurdle race over two miles. He carried 129, and ran the distance in less than four minutes. It was the colt's seventh successive victory under National Hunt Club rules, all the races being won since January. He won by a short head from Karakoul.

Lawrence, who won the Croydon Hurdle Handicap at Gatwick, England, last month, writes the London "Sportsman," has now achieved the distinction of taking a dozen races off the reel. He is a seven-year-old son of Simon Fraser and Rosalind, and secured the first of the twelve at Birmingham on 1st December, 1903. Such a record is probably unique.

The Jumpers' Flat Race at Maribyrnong on Saturday brought out ten run-

ners. Burraneer was made favorite, whilst a fair support was accorded Naomi, Inquisition and Speculation. Inquisition cut down Naomi about fifty strides from home, and won cleverly. R. Lewis rode the winner a nice race. She is by The Inquisitor from Maluna by Malua.

Merriang started favorite on Saturday at Maribyrnong for the Riverside Purse, but failed to run up to expectations. The race was won by Mandeville, who was recently sold out of H. Bellamy's stables for 100 guineas. Thus his new owner (T. Conway) has been almost paid for his outlay in his first race. The little ex-Tasmanian was backed at very remunerative odds. It was a close finish, and Distraction and Spoilt Girl ran a dead heat for second place.

At the annual meeting of the Rother Jockey Club, held at the Rotherdown Hotel on the evening of Jan. 6, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.:—President, Mr T. McIntyre; Vice-president, Mr H. Spence; committee, Messrs M. McCormack, P. D. Herbert, B. Mason, J. Murphy, R. Graham, James Reynolds, P. Fitzgerald, Treasurer, Mr A. Fuller; secretary, Mr S. Quick; starter, Mr J. Graham; judge, Mr J. Doherty; handicapper, Mr Bradshaw; handiapper for trot, Mr G. Morecroft.

Panama started favorite on Saturday at Warwick Farm (N.S.W.) races for the Corinthian Mile, and duly got home cleverly from Braemar. The winner is by Cliveden from Tasmist, a mare that was bred by the late Mr D. S. Wallace. She is by Enfilade (son of Muskett) from Moonga, by Goldsborough from Kermel. Bundock was out of Moonga. The latter was purchased a few years ago by Major George, of New Zealand. Panama, it will be observed, is full of stout racing blood on both sire and dam's side.

Over a score of the best horses in Victoria have been nominated for the A.J.C. Doncaster Handicap and Sydney Cup, to be run at Randwick during the Easter week. The following gentlemen have been re-elected unopposed for the various offices in the Riverina Horse Owners' and Trainers' Association:—President, Mr I. J. McGrath; vice-presidents, Messrs C. Hailes and R. F. Horsley; treasurer, Mr W. G. Higgins; secretary, Mr J. J. Talbot; committee, Messrs F. J. Mitchell, J. Quinlan, L. Laffin, C. Costello, E. Curran, A. Tweedie, C. Edgehill, W. Prowse, J. Quigley, J. Mills, W. Lovett, W. Cummins.

MARIBYRNONG RACES.

The Maribyrnong Racing Club were favored with pleasant weather for their January meeting on Saturday afternoon, and there was a good attendance. A first-rate programme, comprising six events, was submitted, which produced some good sport.

The following are the details:—

MAIDEN PLATE.

Of 55 sovs., second horse 7 sovs. and third 3 sovs. from the stake.

THE AMAZON 1

ENCOUNTER 2

ARISAKA 3

The starters were:—Desert, 5.2 (Byrne); Clank, 5.2 (Truscott); Encounter, 5.2 (Murrell); God Ray, 5.2 (Pearson); Irish Wit, 7.8 (Hyland); Morning Mist, 7.5 (Cooper); Matana, 7.5 (Sutherland); Flying Blood, 7.5 (Piper); Lord Howard, 8.5 (Curtin); Admiral Reus, 8.5 (Murray); The Amazon, 6.2 (Andrews); Arisaka, 6.2 (W. Bennett); Miss Bobby, 6.2 (McNeale); Unfurl, 6.2 (Riddell); Bete Noir, 6.2 (Foulsham).

Betting: 3 to 1 agst The Amazon, 3 to 1 Encounter, 7 to 1 Arisaka and Morning Mist, 8 to 1 Matana, 10 to 10 to 1 others.

Won by two lengths.

Time—1min 25sec.

HANDICAP HURDLE RACE.

Of 50 sovs., second horse 7 sovs. and third 3 sovs. from the stake. Two miles.

BROWNLOCK 1

MAINE 2

TURK 3

The starters were:—Turk, 10.0 (A. Williamson); Neptune, 9.12 (Faunt); Brownlock, 8.1 (Cogrove); St. Helena, 8.6 (Atkinson); Simon, 8.6 (Hughes); Maine, 8.6 (Douglas).

Betting: Erans Brownlock, 3 to 1 agst Simon, 6 to 1 Turk, 10 to 1 others.

Won by four lengths.

Time—1min 35sec.

RIVERSIDE PLATE.

Of 50 sovs., second horse 7 sovs. and third 3 sovs. from the stake. Six furlongs.

MANDEVILLE 1

DISTRACTION 2

SPOILT GIRL 3

The starters were:—Merriang, 9.2 (Truscott); Glenallen, 8.3 (Wheeler); Abbey, 7.12 (Pearson); Giggles, 7.10 (Hitchcock); King Billy, 7.0 (Cooper); Mars, 7.0 (Byrne); Mollusc, 7.0 (Sutherland); Mandeville, 7.3 (Fisher); Spoilt Girl, 7.2 (Diamond); Distraction, 6.8 (R. Davis).

Betting: 5 to 1 agst Merriang, 6 to 1 Distraction and King Billy, 7 to 1 Mandeville and Abbey, 8 to 1 Mars and Giggles, 10 to 1 Spoilt Girl and Mollusc.

Won by a head.

Time—1min 16sec.

Better than Tipsters or Sweeps.

Sure Win
Almost
Every
Meeting.
An Average
of Six Wins
to One Loss.
Write for
Particulars.
FREE.

WRITE me a Post card I will
Convince you, feeling of
races without a well organized
and effective system you must
lose; I inform you of the only
sure system, I have the one
sure system by which you must win.
The odds are all in your favor; it is
a clearly defined systematic
method, positively certain
and has returned 6 wins to 1 loss. You
cannot lose, must win nearly always.

I have a
Wonderful
New System
giving mar-
vellous
Results.
It is the
only safe
and sure
Method in
Existence.

Mr. J. J. Talbot, Secretary of the Moonee Valley Race Club, writes: "I have used your system for some time, and have won 6 wins to 1 loss. You cannot lose, must win nearly always."

RIVERSIDE PURSE.

Of 50 sovs., second horse 7 sovs., and third 3 sovs. from the stake. Six furlongs.

LOCH HUNTER 1
MAT 2

PRECOCIOUS 3

The starters were: Merceon, 8.12 (Martin); Precocious, 8.10 (Mason); Tarna Dream, 8.8 (Hoy); Craig, 8.5 (Pearson); Mat, 8.4 (King); Rockleigh, 8.2 (Miller); Peace, 8.0 (Wheeler); Kilaos, 8.0 (Wilson); Casino Girl, 7.13 (Dean); Metropolitan, 7.9 (Thomas); Defensive, 7.3 (Lane); Loch Hunter, 7.2 (McCowan); Lady Dean, 6.13 (Davis); Leonie, 7.6 (Foulsham).

Betting: 3 to 1 agst Merceon and Loch Hunter, 7 to 1 Craig, 8 to 1 Precocious, 10 to 1 others.

Peace led off, but Loch Hunter quickly took charge, and led down the side from Peace, Precocious, Mat and Merceon. Loch Hunter drew away at the turn, and won with ridiculous ease by three lengths from Mat, who was a similar distance away in front of Precocious. Peace was fourth, Merceon fifth and Lady Dean last.

Time—1 min 17 sec.

JIMMERS' PLAT RACE.

Of 50 sovs., second horse 7 sovs., and third 3 sovs. from the stake. One mile and a quarter.

INQUIRER 1

NAOMI 2

MAINE NIXON 3

The starters were: Burroughs, 3.09 (Truscott); Merceon, 3.07 (Murray); Speculation, 3.4 (M. Carlick); Watchmaker, 3.3 (Cartier); Naomi, 3.0 (Hoy); Inquirer, 2.9 (Hoy); Malagasy, 2.9 (Hoy); Made Nixon, 2.3 (Fisher); Watcher, 2.0 (Williamson); Grasshopper, 2.0 (Williamson).

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Burroughs, 5 to 1 Naomi and Inquirer, 10 to 1 Speculation, 10 to 1 Watchmaker, 10 to 1 others.

Naomi took the lead at the start, but Inquirer passed her and won easily by three lengths of a length. Inquirer was third, Watchmaker fifth, and Watcher last.

Time—2 min 41 sec.

MAIRYBONG HANDICAP.

Of 50 sovs., second horse 7 sovs., and third 3 sovs. from the stake. One mile.

IMPRESS 1

LIETENANT BILL 2

BALL 3

The starters were: Lieut. Bill, 9.0 (Lewis); Renewed, 8.8 (Cartier); Glenelg, 8.0 (Wheeler); Ball, 7.13 (Fisher); Maawa, 7.10 (Watson); Impress, 7.4 (Sutherland); Christ, 6.12 (Bennett); Fair States, 6.10 (Mason).

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Lieut. Bill, 3 to 1 Impress, 5 to 1 Renewed and Ball, 10 to 1 others.

Christ made the running to the turn, where Impress took charge, and won comfortably by two lengths from Lieutenant Bill. Ball was three lengths off third, Glenelg fourth, Renewed fifth and Fair States last.

Time—1 min 42 sec.

AUTUMN ENTRIES.

The following entries were received on Monday for the principal autumn events to be run at the V.R.C., V.A.T.C., and A.J.C. meetings:

V.R.C. MEETING.

FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, 4th MARCH.

NEWMARKET HANDICAP.

Of 25 sovs., each, 5 to 2 sovs. only if declared, with 1000 added; second, 200; third, 100 sovs. Three-quarters of a mile.

Box 1

Vasosa 2

Woolton 3

Woolton 4

Woolton 5

Woolton 6

Woolton 7

Woolton 8

Woolton 9

Woolton 10

Woolton 11

Woolton 12

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Woolton 39

Woolton 40

Woolton 41

Woolton 42

Woolton 43

Woolton 44

V.A.T.C. MEETING.

FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, 11th FEBRUARY.

OAKRIDGE PLATE, of 500 sovs.; second, 75; third, 25 sovs. Five furlongs and a half.

The Infanta 1

Ride Bird 2

Pharos 3

Pasco 4

Tulkere 5

Rondo 6

Haphazard 7

Lady March 8

Jura 9

Troytown 10

Boadill 11

Scotland 12

Vibrato 13

Demas 14

Distraction 15

Bluerose 16

Morning Mist 17

Dangal 18

Moani 19

Bete Noir 20

Chimex 21

Impress 22

Regio 23

Projecture 24

Chamberlain 25

Pendant 26

Handsome 27

Abington 28

Leas 29

Sarto 30

Roycroft 31

Kamfrap 32

Attitude 33

Pine 34

Red Star 35

The Amazon 36

The Palmist 37

Lock 38

Alphons 39

Atlas 40

Salda 41

Claverton 42

Claverton 43

Claverton 44

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Claverton 79

Claverton 80

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or OLD FRIENDS
AT
MAS
PRESENTS
1s. to 250.

THE MELBOURNE SPORTS DEPOT,
Elizabeth St., Melbourne.

CRICKET.

Fixtures for To-Day.

ASSOCIATION.

(SECOND DAY).

Melbourne v. N. Melbourne, at Melbourne.

Hawkeburn v. St. Kilda, at St. Kilda.

Carlton v. East Melbourne, at Carlton.

S. Melbourne v. Fitzroy, at Fitzroy.

University v. Richmond, at University.

(THIRD DAY).

Williamstown v. Coburg, at Williamstown.

Malvern v. Essendon, at Malvern.

Port Melbourne v. Brighton, at Brighton.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

By "Old Cricketer."

For Melbourne v. North second eleven, M. Irwin scored 30.

T. Lurrell, against East Brunswick, made 103 for Parkside.

For Clifton v. Albert Park Strachan took six wickets for 8 runs.

For Hawthorn v. St. Kilda (second), McKay, five wickets for 15 runs.

In a Melbourne inter-club match (Robertson v. Church), Duggan scored 143.

In the Preson Internal Robinson had seven wickets of the Clifton Hill B for 22 runs.

Playing for East Melbourne second eleven against Carlton, Barry took nine wickets for 51 runs, including the hat-trick.

The Australian Eleven will be invited by the Victorian Cricket Association to visit Hobart, and play there on their voyage to New Zealand.

In a match, Coldstream v. Essendon, M. McDonald secured six Essendon wickets for 8 runs; and Miss Patterson six for 17. Scores—Coldstream, 131; Essendon, 7 and 17.

In a match at Warrnambool between Congregational and Baptist Clubs, the latter, in their second innings, totalled 4 runs, three of which were sundries. L. Tinker had six wickets for nothing, and G. Simpson for 1.

Exception has been taken in Tasmania to the proposal of Victoria to place a second eleven in the field against the Islanders. For this reason, the Northern Association will take no part in the tour.

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...to him, and retired before the race. In the first stage of the race, he was kept up a fairly high speed, but neither he nor Charles Towns appeared to make any effort to catch the leading men, as the task was apparently a hopeless one. Despite his non-success, however, the spectators are said to have been well pleased with the form Stanbury showed.

A water policeman in the performance of his duties has to do his turn on the water, either in a launch or a rowing boat. He also has to patrol the wharves. The question, says a Sydney exchange, has been raised up whether he is an amateur, because part of his work is to row round the shipping and wharves. The rule says "who has not been employed in or about boats for wages." A member of the foot police is an amateur. The Rowing Association will be asked to give a ruling on the point. If the whole of the work was done in a boat he would not be an amateur; but it is the exception rather than the rule for the water police to work in a boat.

YACHTING.

By "Yawl."

All the Hobson's Bay boats that were away on cruises have got back to their moorings, with two exceptions, and these are expected back to-day. The holidays were enjoyed by all the crews, and no serious accident of any kind befell any of the members of the clubs.

Club racing was resumed last Saturday, and the day was almost a perfect one for the sport. There was a bright sun and a nice driving breeze from the southward, with just sufficient sea to make yachting pleasurable. The Hobson's Bay and Port Melbourne Clubs then held races, the former for a trophy presented by Mr. Samuel Mauger, M.H.R., and the Port Melbourne for trophies presented by Mr. J. Close and the club.

The Hobson's Bay race was over a nine mile course, commencing at the Glen pier, to a buoy off Port Melbourne, thence to the St. Kilda bank buoy and back to the starting point three times round. There were four series, viz., Aotea (scr.), Eileen (dom.), Hyacinth (dom.), and Hyacinth (dom.). But owing to dissatisfaction over the handicapping only the Hyacinth and Hyacinth started. The Hyacinth had the best of a fairly even start, and with spinnakers set both boats were well handled. The race resulted in a victory for the Hyacinth. The time for the race was 2hr. 3min. 4sec.

Three boats only took part in the Port Melbourne Club race. These were—Bonnie, sailed by Mr. W. J. Clothier (scr.); Fanny, sailed by Mr. E. Edwards (scr.); and Alpha, sailed by Mr. J. Edwards (scr.). On this occasion the Alpha won with Bonnie second and Fanny third.

The dredging operations at the Port Melbourne Lagoon have not yet been completed, and, consequently, several new boats belonging to the Port Melbourne Club have not been launched. The work of dredging is expected to be completed shortly.

SWIMMING.

By "Overarm."

The New South Wales representatives who are to take part in the Australasian championships, to commence at the end of the month, are expected to leave on the 25th inst. In addition to those selected to represent that State, several other prominent swimmers have notified their intention of making the trip. The fact of such first-class men competing in the different events should give the sport a much needed impetus. For a while after the championships were held here, a few years back, the interest taken in swimming affairs was very marked, and it is hoped that we will again see a revival of interest in this healthy and useful accomplishment.

To hand from the secretary of the Maryborough S.C. (Mr. W. Smith) is the programme of a carnival to be given by the club on Wednesday, 18th January. The programme is a first-class one, embracing handcap and squadron races, diving competitions, etc., and in addition exhibitions of swimming and diving will be given by the Kellermans. The races will take place at the Maryborough Baths, and will be conducted under the rules of the club.

Last week the series of test races to decide who should represent Queensland in the Australasian championship events was concluded at Brisbane. The 220 yards event was won by D. Galley, with R. Harrower second. The 100 yards event was also won by Galley. F. Cutcliffe and R. Harrower filling second and third places respectively. Galley is credited with doing the 100 yards in 1min 2-5sec, the standard time being 1min 5sec. If he can keep up this form, or improve upon it at all, the New South Wales cranks will have to exert themselves to beat him.

The Melbourne S.C. have issued their programme for their carnival to be held on the 28th inst., at Hegarty's Baths, St. Kilda. It is fully up to the standard set by the club, and includes amongst other popular events, the 100 yards and half-mile championships of Australia. Entries close at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 21st, at the baths. Mr. E. Mason-Cox is the hon. sec.

The Brighton Club programme has been published, and is as usual of a first-class character. The principal events are the 220 yards breast-stroke and the quarter-mile Australasian championships.

Swimmers are reminded that entries close to-day (Saturday) for the Albert Park carnival, the principal event of which is the Squadron Championship of Victoria.

The Brighton Yacht Club have donated prizes of £3 3s, £1 1s, and 10s 6d to the local swimming club. The prizes will be competed for in a 100 yards open handicap, to be called the Grand Yacht Club Handicap.

The Brighton S.C., at its last committee meeting, appointed Mr. H. A. Wood (who was well known in cycling circles a few years back) as hon. secretary of the club. Mr. Wood has his heart in his work, and is just the man to fill the position recently vacated by Mr. H. Roberts, who for three years rendered the club good service.

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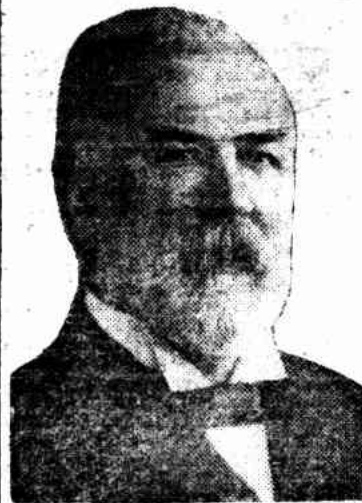
10lb TINS, 12s 6d. PREPAID 100 MILES.
Would you mind trying a sample, is so, send name and address.

OUR FREE WATCHES are giving entire satisfaction, and we receive numerous unsolicited testimonials. Ask our patrons whether we are straight goers.

**THE
CO-OPERATIVE AGENCY CO.,
81 LITTLE COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE.**

LAND PURCHASE COMMISSIONERS.

The Cabinet has decided to appoint Mr. T. F. Cumming, Mr. D. J. Duggan, and Mr. J. M. Gillespie to act as Land Purchase Commissioners under the Closer Settlement Act. A meeting of the Executive Council will be held to confirm the appointments, and the Commissioners will meet officially as soon as they are gazetted.



Mr. T. F. CUMMING.
(Mendelsohn photo.)

Mr. T. F. Cumming is a member of the well-known family of that name who for years had large pastoral interests in the Western District, and did much to improve the breed of merino sheep in this State. He was for some time a member of the Legislative Council of Victoria, and is at present president of the Royal Agricultural Society, and an officer of the Sheepbreeders' Society of Australia.



Mr. D. J. DUGGAN.

Mr. D. J. Duggan has been long connected with agricultural pursuits, and is an old Parliamentarian. He represented Dunolly in the Legislative Assembly for many years, but at the last general election, when the electorates of Dunolly and Kara Kara were united, he was defeated. He was Minister of Lands in the Turner and Peacock Ministries.

FAITH HEALER AND SNAKE

A SENSATIONAL SCENE.

WOMAN ALLOWS HERSELF TO BE BITTEN.

A sensational scene was witnessed on Saturday last near Waihalia, when a woman who preached faith-healing allowed herself to be bitten several times by a snake.

For the past week or so a Mr. and Mrs. Watson and their two children have been travelling the neighborhood preaching faith-healing and other doctrines. On Saturday last the Watsons took their departure from the town, going in the direction of Aberfeldy, a township 25 miles on the north of Waihalia. When a couple of miles beyond the outskirts of the town the travellers found a black snake, and the woman, securing it, allowed it to bite her on the arm several times. A number of persons witnessed the occurrence, and state that the snake attacked the woman savagely. While it was biting her the woman exclaimed to the bystanders, "Did you ever see the clergyman do that?" In answer to questions, she remarked that she had done it "for the Lord's sake." The man took charge of the snake, and carried it about with him. The party did not proceed on their road northwards, but returned to Waihalia for the purpose of trying to convert a person whom they knew. They failed, and then went their way.

It was ascertained that they stopped on Saturday evening at a house on the Aberfeldy road, about five miles from Waihalia, and it was stated that the woman was very ill. The affair caused a sensation, and led to the police making inquiries. Mounted-constable Hayes was sent to overtake the travellers, and he found them taking breakfast at the house of a man named Brown. The constable states that the woman had certainly re-



Mr. J. M. GILLESPIE.

Mr. J. M. Gillespie has never aspired to public life, but he is well known in financial circles in Melbourne. He is manager of the Freehold Assets Realisation Company.



CAPTAIN J. E. JENKINS (Secretary).

is an officer of the Lands department who has special qualifications for the position of secretary to the Land Purchase Commissioners, to which he has been appointed. So great were these that his classification was specially raised to enable him to be appointed to the office. Captain Jenkins has had wide experience in various branches of the department. He has been district officer for the Ararat district, and latterly has fulfilled onerous duties at the head office in Melbourne. When in the Ararat district he was a captain in the Rangers, and is now on the reserve of officers. He is a member of the executive of the L.O.R. Friendly Society, and has twice been branch president of the A.N.A.

ceived injuries to the arm, which is swollen in a manner suggesting snake bite. In reply to inquiries by the constable as to whether an antidote had been used, the Watsons replied in the negative, making a statement to the effect that their beliefs saved them from harm.

The Watsons, who do not ask for money or take up collections during their services, claim to be true followers of the Saviour, stating that they have no money and no abode. Mrs. Watson spent her girlhood in Waihalia.

MRS BEVAN ILL.

VISIT TO EUROPE RECOMMENDED.

DR BEVAN ACCOMPANIES HER.

News of the illness of Mrs. Bevan, wife of Dr. Bevan, of the Collins street Independent Church, will be learned with regret by her friends and by the general public, to whom the lady is well known by reason of her many acts of charity and public spiritedness.

Mrs. Bevan is suffering from an affection of the right hand and arm which is in the nature of partial paralysis, and which is somewhat puzzling to diagnose. The affection of the arm has had an ill effect upon the general health, and Mrs. Bevan's medical adviser has suggested a complete change of air and scene. These it is thought may rehabilitate Mrs. Bevan's health.

Acting upon this advice Mrs. Bevan has decided to take a trip to the old country.

Dr. Bevan will accompany his wife, and arrangements are now being made for the fitting of the doctor's office in the church during his absence. As these arrangements are still indefinite, the date of departure has not yet been fixed, nor has the duration of the trip being settled.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

INTERSTATE EXHIBITIONS.

ROYAL SOCIETY NEGOTIATIONS.

At the monthly meeting of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday, the President, Mr. T. F. Cumming, in the chair, the question of holding inter-State exhibitions was considered.

The inter-State exhibition committee reported having considered the proposal for holding the inter-State exhibitions of natural products in the various States, and recommended that an exhibition be held on the society's ground in 1906; that the society give £600 in prizes, and that the matter be brought forward with the view of obtaining the assistance of the various State Governments, and the co-operation of the principal societies in the other States.

The Chairman said the general idea was that these exhibitions be held in the different States in succeeding years, on the condition that the leading society in the State in which the exhibition is held gives £600 in prizes.

Mr. J. Gibb, M.L.A., thought this was rather premature, and the matter might be postponed until after the Premiers' conference at Hobart, at which this matter would be considered. The Commis-

wealth ought to do something in the way of putting the products of Australia before the world.

Mr. A. McCracken considered that if it was worth the while of the State to have the show, it was worth its while to provide the funds. He did not see why the society should supply the funds.

After further discussion the motion for the adoption of the report was negatived by a large majority.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT.

THE NEW COMMISSIONERS.

THE NEXT STEP.

A meeting of the Executive Council will be held in the course of a day or two to confirm the appointment of Messrs. T. F. Cumming, J. M. Gillespie, and D. J. Duggan, as Land Purchase Commissioners under the Closer Settlement Act. A meeting of the Commissioners will be held as soon as they are gazetted.

The secretary to the Board, Captain J. E. Jenkins, has scheduled about ninety estates, which have been referred to the Government for submission to the Board.

The Board will also be asked to consider regulations under the Closer Settlement Act.

The Wail of the Back.

'Tis a warning of Kidney Ills.
Backache of the Kidneys' cry for help—the aches and pains of bad back—the lame back—the Weak—all tell of Kidneys sick from overwork.
Kidneys become blocked, congested, inflamed.

They're delicate little organs, those Kidneys of ours.

Weren't intended to stand the strain that Twentieth Century hustle and bustle puts on them. Most natural thing in the world that they should get out of order.

And when they do they let us know about it mighty quickly.

Send a sharp twinge in the back to tell us of their need for help. It's a warning that had best be heeded. Serious trouble ahead if it isn't.

Backache is the beginning—the end is death, if the warning is neglected.

No time should be wasted. Go to their aid.

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills

Will start the Kidneys working rightly, relieve the backache, heal the inflammation.

Remove the backache, cure every Kidney Ill, cure Diabetes, and women's disorders.

They are a little remedy that help women to bear the burdens of life more easily. Make better, happier, more capable women of them. Are doing it right here in Melbourne.

The best proof of this lies in the evidence of people you know, the evidence of friends and neighbors.

MELBOURNE PROOF.

Mrs. Le Bown, 30 Coventry street, South Melbourne, says:—"The statement has been published in Melbourne papers that I reaped a lot of benefit by using Doan's Backache Kidney Pills for kidney trouble. I am pleased to say that that statement is perfectly correct. It is over three years now since I first used them, when they eased me of pains in the small of my back, stopped giddy attacks, cured me of headaches, gave me energy, and caused me to sleep properly. I used to have flushes in the face as well, and those disappeared. I have used these pills off and on since then, and they have kept me in good health. I know of others who have obtained splendid relief of kidney trouble through using Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. I obtained this remedy at Hooper's Pharmacy in Elizabeth street, city."

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are sold by all Chemists and Storekeepers at 2s 9d per box (six boxes 15s 3d), or will be posted on receipt of price by Foster-McClellan Co., 76 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

BUT BE SURE THEY ARE DOAN'S.

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Our Illustrations

THE LATE REV. J. DALTON, S.J.

On the 5th inst. there died at St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, New South Wales, one who for nearly 40 years has been the leader in Roman Catholic educational affairs in Victoria and New South Wales. We refer to the Rev. Joseph Dalton, S.J., formerly head of St. Patrick's College, Kew, and afterwards founder of St. Xavier's College, Kew. Many of our leading Catholics of to-day were students under Father Dalton at one or the other of these scholastic institutions. He died at the ripe age of 88, and, as his successor at St. Ignatius' College writes us, "who dear old man died in a wonderfully peaceful way."

Father Dalton was born in Waterford, Ireland, on February 12th, 1817, when Wellington's praises were still in the mouths of men, and the battle of Waterloo ranked as a thing of yesterday. He began his classical studies in his native town, and completed them with distinction in the Irish School of Clongowood, near Dublin. In the year 1836 he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus, and after the ordinary probation was admitted to the vows of religion. For the next eight years he was working assiduously in two courses of education in the principal colleges of the order in Ireland, and this has been the growing work of Father Dalton's long and useful life.

In 1847 he went to France to pursue the philosophical studies of the Society. Having completed these, and another brief period of scholastic work in 1851-52, he went through a full theological course in the Jesuit Seminary of St. Brieux, North Wales. He was ordained priest at Maynooth by Dr. Murray, then Archbishop of Dublin. After his ordination, Father Dalton continued his favorite work of education, and for four or five years had charge of the discipline of the students of Clongowood College. In 1861 he was appointed Rector of St. Stanislaus, near Tallamore, which position he held until 1866, when in accordance to the order of the general of the society, who had called upon him to take charge of the Jesuit Mission in Victoria, he left his fatherland and sailed for Melbourne in the steamer Great Britain.

The first twelve years of his life in Australia were spent in Melbourne. During this period he successfully controlled the working of St. Patrick's College, and engaged, with equal zeal and success, in missionary labors at Richmond, a suburban district which had been handed over to him, for the Society of Jesus, by the late Archbishop Grubb. Four years after his arrival in Victoria, Father Dalton effected the purchase of an estate of seventy acres at Kew, and at once began to build the College of St. Francis Xavier.

In 1878, at the invitation of Archbishop Vaughan he went to Sydney. Immediately on his arrival, he was appointed Superior of the Jesuits in New South Wales and Victoria, and he may justly be regarded as the founder of the Society of Jesus in New South Wales. The Jesuit Mission of St. Leonards, the large day-school of the society in Wollongong, since transferred to St. Ignatius' College, and afterwards known as St. Ignatius' College, Bankers' street, and the excellently situated College of Riverview, have all been established by him.

THE LATE REV. J. WHITE.

We give a portrait of another one of the Rev. J. White, a well-known Methodist minister, who died at Hawthorn on the 5th inst. after a long term of service as pastor and missionary.

The Rev. Mr. White was born in September, 1835, at Croydon, in Lincolnshire, England, and was educated at Richmond Theological College, England. In 1860 he was ordained in England as missionary at Mill. He labored in that field for eight years, when, on health reasons, he returned to his native country, and he was sent to Tottenham. He ministered there for five years, and then came to Victoria in 1878. After serving for fifteen years in some of the most important districts in this State, Mr. White's health broke down, and he retired from active work, though he continued to preach as a supernumerary minister, for the remaining years of his life. He preached his last sermon at the South Malvern Methodist Church on Christmas morning.

DEATH OF STOCK EXCHANGE MEMBERS.

The Stock Exchange of Melbourne has during the past week adjourned its sittings twice out of respect to two of its members who had passed away. The first of these was Mr. T. K. Johnston, who died suddenly last Saturday in Cavill's baths, Sydney, while on a visit to the capital of New South Wales. Mr. Johnston was an exceedingly well-known figure in Stock Exchange circles, having joined the institution as far back as 1850. This was during the stirring times of the Broken Hill boom, and his strength of character, high personal integrity, and genuineness quickly brought him business success and personal regard. The high standard set by him was in consequence with the best tradi-

tions of the Stock Exchange, and it was because of this fact, and the esteem in which he was held by members, that the unexpected news of his death came as such a shock to them. Mr. Johnston was 70 years of age, and in early manhood was connected with the Bank of New South Wales. He joined that institution about the year 1860, and remained in its service until May, 1882, when he resigned the position of manager of the Beechworth branch to proceed to Adelaide to start in business. Prior to that he had had charge of the Inglewood and Ararat branches. Mr. Johnston was connected with the Stock Exchange of Adelaide, but, as stated, finally gravitated to the wider sphere of business existing in Melbourne. The deceased gentleman was a widower, and leaves one son—Mr. T. K. Johnston—who was associated with him in business, in the form of T. K. Johnston and Son. The remains were conveyed to Melbourne, and interred in the Boroondara Cemetery, Kew, on Monday.

The second member of the Exchange who has died was Mr. Montagu C. L. Pym, who succumbed to heart failure last Sunday, after two months' illness, during which he had suffered from dropsy and pneumonia. The deceased leaves a widow and three sons and two daughters. He was 55 years of age. Mr. Pym joined the Stock Exchange in 1884, during the "boom" period, and was for some years a member of the committee. Previously he had been for some time the head of an auctioneering and agency firm in Dunedin, where he had after having severed his connection with the Messrs. Brodgen, and in connection, in whose service he came from England to New Zealand several years before. The late Mr. Pym was of a genial and kindly disposition, and made many friends in the Melbourne and other clubs of which he was a member. His remains were interred in the Boroondara Cemetery on Monday afternoon.

Our illustrations include portraits of Mr. Johnston and Mr. Pym.

STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN UNION CAMP AT HEALESVILLE.

Nearly two hundred students, male universities and colleges of Australia, Students' Christian Union, from the universities and colleges of Australia and New Zealand, were present on Wednesday, the 4th inst., when the convention, or "Summer School," was opened. The convention was held at Healesville three years ago. Since that time the students have met at Wollongong, New South Wales; and at Mount Barker, South Australia. The programme is arranged to run for eight days at each convention.

Whilst accommodation was provided for many of the students at local hotels and boarding establishments, a camp was pitched in the grounds surrounding Healesville College, which is pleasantly situated on a hillside overlooking the town. Of the camp several illustrations are given on Page 10.

According to the annual report, there are 51 unions in affiliation with the Australian Students' Christian Union, with a total membership of 1890.

Dr. W. C. McClelland, with Rev. H. R. Holmes and Mr. A. R. Crump vice-presidents; Mr. J. M. Stewart was elected secretary, and Mr. D. C. Blackwood assistant secretary. The following were appointed the general committee for the next two years: Messrs S. H. Barraclough, W. C. McClelland, T. H. Dunhill, C. R. McLaren, J. Ward, A. R. Crump, W. G. Williams, Des. Lyall and E. G. Waterhouse, and J. Orr.

Among the leading speakers it was arranged should give addresses at the conference are the Revs. David Ross, E. H. Suggden (Master of Queen's College), Canon Stephen, Canon Nash, G. H. Balfour, W. G. Macdonald, R. A. Betts, A. G. B. West of Adelaide, and John Dixon secretary Australian Board of Missions (Sydney).

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL BAZAAR.

Acceptable donations to the various hospitals have been made from time to time of amounts that have been raised in various parts of the country by State school bazaars. The Children's Hospital has especially benefited in this way. An exceptionally successful bazaar was recently held at Glenore, by means of which the sum of £50 was divided between the Melbourne and Children's Hospitals. On page 10 we give a group of the workers at the bazaar.

The affair was organized by Mr. Hammett, head master of the Glenore State school, and Mrs. Alex. McKinnon. The original proposal was to raise £5 for the Children's Hospital. The effort was successful beyond all expectation, and it was found that instead of £5 the sum of £20 was easily raised. Then the promoters and those who had so ably assisted them, encouraged by their success, aimed still higher, and ultimately the sum of £67 was realised, of which, as already stated, £50 went to the hospitals mentioned.

FEDERAL FINANCEIERS.

The people of the Commonwealth and citizens of the individual States will be interested in gaining some personal knowledge of the appearance of the principal officers who keep the Federal public accounts and deal with so much of the revenue of the State. To such we present the group portraits of Sir George Turner, the Federal Treasurer, and the principal officers of his department. Sir George Turner has become familiar, by appearance, all over Australia. On the

formation of the Federal Treasury department most of the officers now stationed in Melbourne were appointed to it from other States. They have to keep the accounts not only of the Commonwealth, but also those as between the States and the Commonwealth, for the Federal Government has to return to the States at least three-fourths of the total Customs revenue. In addition, the department deals with the revenue from another great trading concern, the Post Office.

HARVESTING IN VICTORIA.

Few townspeople have any idea of the circumstances and conditions under which harvesting is conducted in this new country. Our picture of threshing on the Balmore station, near Pakenham, will give them some inkling on the subject. In the foreground is the portable steam engine connected by the leather driving belt with the threshing machine, which is almost hidden by the platform between the two. To the left the men are engaged in building up the stack of straw as the straw comes from the machine. These portable engines and threshing machines are most frequently owned by persons who travel them round the country stopping at farms by the way and doing the work. It is hot and dusty work. It is a wonder that more fires do not occur, but as will be seen in the picture, the smoke stacks of the engines are capped with the most efficient spark arresters that can be obtained.

TWELFTH AUSTRALIAN ELEVEN.

The selection of the twelfth Australian team of cricketers to visit England was completed by the selection on Monday in Sydney, and this week we give portraits of the fourteen players and their business manager, Mr. F. Laver, who will also be available for service in the field if required. Twelve out of the fifteen have been members of previous teams, but Gehrs and Newland, of South Australia, and Cotter, of New South Wales, go to England for the first time. They are three promising colts, and Cotter's fast bowling gives promise of proving very useful. From the cricketers' point of view, the merits of the team are dealt with in our cricket columns.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

We give among our illustrations an external view of the new and commodious wing of St. Vincent's Hospital, situated in Fitzroy, close to the boundary of the city of Melbourne. The addition has been erected and equipped on the most modern scientific principles, at a cost of over £4000, and it will shortly be opened for the reception of patients. The St. Vincent Hospital, though under Roman Catholic management, is a purely cosmopolitan charitable institution, for its doors are open to patients irrespective of creed or country. It is doing splendid work for the metropolitan area, and well deserves the support of the charitably disposed, which is being increasingly extended to it.

PRAHRAN AND MALVERN GARDENS.

There is no doubt that the money expended by the municipalities of Melbourne and suburbs in laying out gardens and recreation reserves is money well spent. A crowded city without these breathing spaces is not a pleasant place to live in. We reproduce in this number of "The Weekly Times" some photographs of picturesque spots in the public gardens of Malvern and Prahran.

The Malvern Gardens are well laid out, and profit by the constant attention of Mr. T. Pockell, who is an enthusiast. The Prahran municipality has been particularly enterprising. The Victoria Gardens occupy an area of four and a half acres, and the land was purchased by the council. A band stand was erected at a cost of £200, and £30 a year is the sum voted for maintenance. The band stand and portions of the gardens are illuminated by electricity, and weekly concerts are given at which bonograph views are shown. These concerts have become very popular. In addition to the Victorian Gardens the municipality also purchased two acres of land for a reserve situated in Greville and Gratian streets, and for the maintenance of this £200 a year is voted. The curator of Victoria Gardens is Mr. G. Cunningham, and Mr. W. Moor has charge of the reserve, in which the bowling green is situated.

THE DRAMAGRAPH.

A NEW AUSTRALIAN CINEMATOGRAPH INVENTION.

Ever since the introduction of the cinematograph, scientists and inventors throughout the world have been endeavoring to discover a means by which flickering, shimmering and other inferior defects in the machines in use could be entirely avoided. In the process in use the successive pictures which constitute the animated scene are projected intermittently at the rate of about 16 per second, and during the change from one little picture to another a distinct interval is introduced by a shutter, which cuts off the light and picture from the screen. Many kinds of shutters have been employed to remedy the defects, and the best idea introduced was to reduce the period for which the picture is obscured to its least possible extent, consistent with the necessity for keeping the picture obscured at all times while the film is in motion.

Mr. Robert F. Haines, of Swanston street, Melbourne, has devised an entirely novel and ingenious process of projecting the pictures without any dark

interval or obscuring of the film at any time while the picture is projected on the screen. In his process he separates the pictures in two alternate odd and even series, which enable one picture to be removed while the other is being shown. These pictures are projected through the two lenses of a duplex projecting system on coincident positions on a screen by a special form of alternating, reciprocating or circular shutter. While one picture is projected the next in succession is obscured, and while only a portion of one picture is projected the corresponding portion of the other is obscured, and the remaining portion projected, so that, at all times, a full and complete picture is projected on the screen, thereby making the projection of the picture absolutely continuous. There is no dark interval, variation, loss, or diminution of light whatever. The two pictures remain stationary while the shutter covers one and exposes the other in exactly the same ratio. By reason of the whole subject matter of the animated scene being divided in two series, all the mechanical movements are performed at half the usual speed, considerably reducing the instrumental vibration, and enables much clearer and brighter pictures to be used, even up to lantern size, if necessary. This invention will mark an important era in the history of animated picture projection.

Mr. Haines, the inventor, whose photograph is given, intends taking his invention to England, making arrangements for the manufacture of films and instruments that should give him a satisfactory reward for his labors.

Entertainments.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

By "At the Wings."

The story, the aims, and the scenes of Florodora have lingered long in the memory of the public—a public fed, if not surfeited, during the past few years on this special kind of theatrical fare. It has been said that once we get away from comic opera one musical comedy is very like another. There is this difference, viz., that one lasts with the public for 104 nights, another for fourteen. Florodora put up the record. No other musical comedy has pretended to rival it for length of run, although The Orchid came a good second. Whether the extent of public affection, as gauged by the number of nights its favorite play runs, is a correct indication of the comparative merit of a play is another question. Florodora was put on originally a few weeks before the Christmas season, and ran right on through the holidays—into 104 nights. The announcement of a revival attracted to Her Majesty's theatre a crowded audience on Saturday night, and, as is natural when every bar of an overture is familiar, the people settled themselves down into an agreeable mood, and there was a warmth about the house—a warmth not due altogether to the temperature of the atmosphere—but to the mood of the audience.

On the part of those who were familiar with the piece, and remembered every turn almost of each of the principal performers, there may have been on Saturday night some disappointment. There could have been none had it been an initial performance. First impressions are lasting, so that as Lord Donegal, Kenningham may have been preferred, by those who saw the previous performance to a Surrey; a Grace Palotta as a society lady to a Miss Clifton, and so on through the cast. Yet each performer, on Saturday night read—and sang—the part according to his or her own conception of it. In each case, however, it was its unfamiliarity that was the trouble. Miss Clifton made of Lady Holyrood quite a different being to the one with which Grace Palotta made us familiar. Similarly, Kenningham, Brownlow, and Ward were all different in their respective parts to Surrey, Haigh Jackson, and Fred Leslie. Miss Florence Young could scarcely be a failure at any musical comedy part, and she scored on this occasion in the role formerly sustained by Miss Carrie Moore. Miss Evelyn Scott was successful in the part formerly played by Miss Maud Chetwynd. Mr. Geo. Lauri, of course, was an unqualified success, because he had the part which he created in the original Melbourne production, and of which he made such a huge success. The burlesques introduced into the play by Miss Carrie Moore and Mr. Geo. Lauri caught on at the time, and this fact probably induced the introduction of a travesty on one of the principal scenes in L'Aiglon. The fact that both plays are under the same management does away with an objection formerly raised to the burlesques.

The romantic Napoleonic drama, in which Napoleon only appears in a vision, but in which his son is magnified into a person of some importance, has succeeded, inasmuch as it has proved Miss Tittell Brune to be a young actress of considerable power. Altogether it is an undoubtedly clever production, and as such it has run through three weeks at the Princess's Theatre, and has attracted good audiences during that time. It will run until next Friday, and will be succeeded on Saturday by Romeo and Juliet, which will give Miss Brune further opportunities of distinguishing herself.

The pantomime, Sinbad the Sailor, at the Theatre Royal, has been freshened up by the addition of some new songs,

dance, etc., and other new numbers have been added. It is a pleasant thing, and although there is nothing brilliant about it, yet there is plenty to make one laugh, and especially to amuse the children. The transformation scenes and some others of splendor will be found particularly attractive.

It seems that the musical comedies, The Cingales and The Duchess of Danzig, both of which have been many times promised by the Williamson management are not to be introduced in Melbourne after all, but are being reserved for the Sydney season. The present revival of Florodora will probably be followed by revivals of The Geisha, and Paul Jones.

At the Bijou Theatre to-night (Saturday) a military drama, with plenty of sensation, and attractive stage settings, will replace the more pathetic play which has been seen during the past week. A Soldier and a Man is the title of the new piece.

The Russian wrestler, Hackenschmidt, has been giving displays nightly at the Opera House, and on Monday evening his opponent, Gustave Rennet, succeeded in winning the £10 offered to the wrestler who could successfully contend against the "Russian" for ten minutes. Hackenschmidt is undoubtedly less of a show man, and more of an athlete than some who have preceded him.

Toboggan races for prizes are being organised as a new feature by the management of Princes Court, where shooting the chute has become a pastime.

Is there a feeling of rivalry between Miss Nellie Stewart, the Australian actress and Miss Tittell Brune, the American? There seems to be some ground for the supposition. The two actresses are preparing to appear in Camille, a play affording many opportunities to the ambitious, and both will be playing the part for the first time—Miss Brune in Melbourne and Miss Stewart in Sydney. Further color is lent to the suggestion by the report that Miss Brune intends to play Zaza, which has already been played by Mr. Musgrove's company, with Miss Stewart in the name part. Competition, it is said, is healthy, and rivalry on the stage is probably more so—in the interests of the public, whatever developments there might be behind the footlights.

It is said that Miss Florence Young will conclude her engagement with Mr. J. C. Williamson at the end of the season of the Royal Comic Opera Company at Her Majesty's Theatre next month. Miss Young will make her final appearance in Paul Jones, and then go to America. Mr. Williamson says he has not yet decided who is to take Miss Young's place, but it is probable that Miss Dolly Castles will join the company now that the run of Patience has ended.

At the close of the present season of comic opera at Her Majesty's Theatre, the Knight-Jeffries Company, now closing a New Zealand tour, will resume possession under Mr. Williamson's management.

By the Ortons, which arrives here about the middle of next month, the members of Mr. J. C. Williamson's new concert organisation—the Parkina-Foldes Company—are to voyage to Australia. The two stars of the company are Miss Elizabeth Parkina, a young American soprano, fresh from laurels won at the recent Covent Garden season in London, and paying only a flying visit to Australia before returning to fill another season at the fountain head of opera in England, and Foldes, a remarkably fine "cellist," from Hungary. Miss Parkina will join the company in Sydney, her route lying over the United States, in order that she may show her fellow townspeople in Kansas City the strides she has made in her profession since leaving them. Madame Meiba was to help her at the concert. Miss Margaret Thomas, soprano, Mr. Whitworth Milton, tenor, and Mr. Victor Marmont, pianist, complete a talented quintet, whose first Melbourne appearance will be made at the Town Hall on the 4th March.

15 YEARS OF HEADACHE.

BILE BEANS AGAIN EFFECTIVE. Wise doctors treat headaches as a symptom only, not as a disease. An aching head is proof of the disorder of some other organ—generally the stomach or liver. Bile Beans are so successful in curing headaches, because they remove the root cause, by correcting and stimulating the liver and digestive system. The following case of Mr. E. P. Lee, of 54 David street, Ballarat, is an illustration. This gentleman says:—"For fifteen years I have been suffering from nervous prostration, bilious headaches, and fits of depression, which troubled me greatly, and I thought I should be compelled to abandon my profession as a pianoforte tuner, on account of my work aggravating the nerve trouble, but I am thankful to be able to say that since taking Bile Beans I do not know that I have any nerves. As for the depressed feeling, I have not experienced it since the first dose. If I had to pay fifty times the price for Bile Beans I would willingly do so, rather than revert to my nervous, depondent, unreliable self." Bile Beans are a safe and speedy cure for Biliousness, Headache, Indigestion, Constipation, Piles, Debility, Female Weaknesses, Nervousness, Bad Blood, Bad Breath, Anæmia, Disturbed Sleep, Loss of Appetite, Summer Fag, and, in fact, all ailments that owe their origin to defective bile flow, assimilation and digestion. Obtainable generally at 1s 1/4d, or 2s 6d large box (contains three times the 1s 1/4d size).—(Adv't.)

Direct telephonic communication has been established between Ballarat and Geelong.

The Charlton water supply has run out, and pumping from the Avoca has been commenced.

The Bendigo Mining Board is to be disbanded. Members' fees have been paid up to the end of last year.

Dr. Louis Henry has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the Police Medical Board. It is an honorary position.

A serious outbreak of diphtheria has occurred at Beaufort. Eleven cases have been reported—two of them fatal.

The total amount of hotel and other license fees paid into the sub-Treasury at Bendigo for the year 1904 was £6225.

A big eel got jammed in a waterpipe at St. George's road, Northcote, and cut off the water supply until it was got out.

The Five Posts Hotel at Jarkdan, in the Inglewood district, connected with which was the local post office, has been destroyed by fire.

For the fourth time, at the instance of Canada, the proposed Pacific Cable Conference has been postponed. It will not take place until May.

A fire which occurred at Birchipon Monday destroyed about £250 worth of property belonging to Mr. A. Virtue, including £160 in bank notes.

A Government coal store for fruit is being erected at Doncaster, and will be finished by the commencement of next month. The cost is £2400.

Mr. Challen, the Geelong postmaster, has been transferred to Bendigo. His place at Geelong will be filled by Mr. Thomas Wright, of Hamilton.

Ann Murray, an old age pensioner, has committed suicide at Ballarat East by hanging herself. She had previously been heard to threaten to take her own life.

Protests are being sent from various parts of the country to the Railway Commissioners against the use of open trucks for the conveyance of holiday picnicers.

It has been decided by the Automobile Club of Victoria to ask that it be consulted in reference to any proposed legislation for the regulation of motor traffic.

The committee of the Queen Victoria Hospital for Women intends to appoint a resident medical officer, so that cases arriving at night may be admitted and treated.

The railway revenue for the first six months of the present financial year exceeds that received during the July-December term of the previous year by £183,730.

While fishing in a boat off Altona pier on Saturday last, Mr. J. K. O. Smith, solicitor, of Footscray, slipped in fixing one of the bottom boards, and broke his arm in two places.

Sergeant C. W. Armstrong, who for eight years has been in charge of the police at Castlemaine, has been transferred to Melbourne, and promoted to the rank of sub-inspector.

At a meeting of the board of the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., held on the 5th inst., Mr. Duncan E. McBryde, M.L.C., was elected chairman of directors for the ensuing year.

Mr. R. Hocking, M.A., who has been inspector of schools in the Horsham district, has been appointed principal of the Continuation School, which will be opened in Melbourne next month.

It is feared that under the new estimates of population Victoria will only be entitled to return twenty-two members to the House of Representatives instead of twenty-three as hitherto.

The State Premiers intend to have a preliminary private conference among themselves before meeting the Prime Minister and Federal Ministers in conference at Hobart next month.

For a week, while crossing the Southern Ocean, the decks of the steamer Star of Scotland, which recently arrived from London, were covered with snow. The passengers had rare games of snowball.

Steamers travelling between Sydney and Melbourne have, during the week, been enveloped in dense volumes of bush fire smoke, blown out to sea. In many cases the steamers had to be slowed down.

Women assistants have been appointed to the Astral Photographic Bureau at the Melbourne Observatory. The ladies were first submitted to an exacting examination as to their knowledge of the work required.

The health of Mrs. Bevan, wife of the Rev. Dr. Bevan, has been very unsatisfactory for some time past. Acting on medical advice she will shortly take a trip to England. Mrs. Bevan will be accompanied by Dr. Bevan.

Second-class Sergeant Middleitch, now stationed at Traralgon, has been appointed to take charge of the Castlemaine police station, in lieu of Sergeant Armstrong, who has been promoted to be sub-inspector.

Messrs. C. Oliver, W. M. Fehon and D. R. Scaddie, the New South Wales Railway Commissioners, have been on a visit to Melbourne to confer with the Victorian Commissioners on the differential rate question. They were entertained at luncheon by Federal Ministers.

At the inquest on the young man who was killed on New Year's Day by falling out of a train at Lal Lal, a verdict of accidental death was returned, and the jury found that no one was blamable.

Superintendent Couch retired from the police force this week, after over forty years' service. At Stawell he was presented by the police by the Wimmera with an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns.

On Wednesday, according to a return furnished to the Railway Commissioners, 47,686 bags of wheat were loaded on the Victorian railways. There are now 304,000 bags stacked at stations other than at the seaboard.

When shooting on the Balintore Estate, near Colac, Mr. R. J. Lavery, of the Union Club Hotel, shot a snake 5ft. in length. Noticing its extraordinary girth he opened it, and found that the reptile had swallowed five young quail.

Three young men who were camping out during the holidays were caught in the act of bathing in one of the weirs at Donnelly's Creek, connected with Melbourne's water supply from the Watts River. They are to be prosecuted.

Dr. Green, the Bishop of Ballarat, will attend the following rural deanery meetings during the year:—March, Warrnambool; May, Hamilton; August, Inglewood; November, Ballarat North. It is anticipated that the diocesan synod will meet early in May.

The Postal authorities have at last given their consent to dutiable parcels by post being cleared at the Geelong post office. Hitherto the clearing of such parcels for Geelong had to be done at Melbourne, and much inconvenience was caused thereby.

The "Times" thinks that the broad view which Mr. Deakin took in his speech in the Federal Parliament on preferential trade and Imperial co-operation generally, and the support given him by Mr. Watson, are sufficient to counteract the effect of the Rosebery tactics in England.

The Prime Minister, since his return from Sorrento, has been staying at Macedon. Mr. Reid will shortly visit Sydney, where he has promised to deliver addresses at several public functions, and on the 3rd February he will go to Tasmania to be present at the Premier's conference.

A Geelong inventor has, as a result of 20 years' experimenting, got the idea of a flying machine, and a small syndicate has been formed to help to put the invention to a practical test. A model, which seems to have given satisfaction, has been exhibited to members of the syndicate.

Captain W. Williams has completed 50 years as a mine manager in Australia. For many years past he has been a local preacher in the Methodist Church, Ballarat, and on Sunday he delivered a sermon. To mark the completion of Captain Williams' jubilee, the members of the Mine Managers' Association attended the church in a body.

John Curtiss, a well known farmer, shot himself this week at Catta, near St. (N.S.W.). Curtiss placed the muzzle of a shot gun in his mouth and exploded the charge, which blew away part of his face and head. His mind had been deranged by a recent accident. Deceased was a single man, aged 50 years.

An old teacher has informed the Minister of Customs that when he was stationed at Sunbury forty years ago he successfully experimented there in the growth of Sea Island cotton from seed brought from Fiji. The five trees he had grown luxuriantly and gave immense quantities of cotton, which he used for stuffing cushions.

Thomas Kelly, aged 35, went to the Melbourne Hospital on Monday night with his skull fractured, and with gaping wounds upon his head, and his clothes saturated with blood. He said that he had been set upon by "two blokes" in Exploration lane, off Little Lonsdale street. He was admitted to the hospital for treatment.

Charles Boots, who was severely injured by an explosion at the Diamond Gully dredge in August last, can now get about on crutches. An artificial leg is being procured for him, and when it arrives he will be allowed to leave the hospital. The unfortunate man has been an inmate of the Castlemaine Hospital since the occurrence of the accident.

A movement has been launched at Bendigo with a view to memorialising the late Mr. J. H. Abbott, M.L.C., who introduced the Hospital Sunday movement in Australia, and as the deceased gentleman always took a lively interest in the charities, it is suggested that a marble tablet should be placed in the main vestibule of the hospital.

The Minister of Agriculture has written to the Geelong Chamber of Commerce, stating that having cancelled the appointment of the permanent inspector of produce at Geelong, he could not alter his decision, but in future an officer from Melbourne would be sent down to attend to any shipments of produce despatched from Geelong to overseas ports.

The following gentlemen have been appointed justices of the peace for Victoria:—Central and Southern Ballawick, Mr. William John Andrew, Ballawick; southern Ballawick, Mr. John Baird, Learmonth; midland Ballawick, Mr. Alexander M'Leod, Kyabram; all Ballawicks, Mr. James Beith M'Dougall, Casino (N.S.W.). Mr. John Edwin George Millett, Sydney (N.S.W.). The absence of weather forecasts during

the holiday seasons is to have the consideration of the Chief Secretary. Sir Samuel Gillott recognises that it is most important to farmers and mariners, to say nothing of the convenience to the holiday maker in the cities, that the most reliable forecasts which can be given should be continuously available.

The Rev. James Dixon, of Sydney, told the Christian students at Healesville that the church had absolutely failed to fulfil its duty to the aborigines of Australia. It had sent missionaries to China, India, Africa and the Cannibal Islands, but had neglected its primary missionary duty, which was the evangelisation of the Australian aborigines.

The plans for the new railway passenger station at Flinders street, Melbourne, are now ready, but the Commissioners have decided to submit them to the Railways Standing Committee before calling for tenders. The total cost will be £500,000. A sum of £155,256 has already been expended in foundations, subways, re-arrangement of lines, etc., and £80,000 is still available for similar purposes.

New post-offices are nearing completion at Korumburra, Minyip, Werribee, and Yarrowonga. Tenders are being invited for a number of others, and extensive additions are to be made to the offices at Bairnsdale. Among the places at which new post-offices are to be erected are Wood End and Woodpoint. Altogether Federal public works representing an outlay of £110,000 are in progress, or will shortly be begun in Victoria.

It was decided at a meeting of the corn trade sectional committee of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, held recently, that the standard weight of an Imperial bushel of this season's wheat crop be arrived at on or about January 28. The secretary was to urge shippers and others interested in the grain trade to forward samples as early as possible, in order that no delay may take place in arriving at a fair average sample.

Frank Milburn, the little son of Mr. W. A. Milburn, State school teacher at Tooradin, climbed on the roof of the school building on Saturday afternoon. His mother, who was sewing on the verandah, was startled by some falling body pitching close at her feet. The little boy fell on his head, and was picked up unconscious. Mrs. Milburn conveyed him by the evening train to Melbourne, where he was admitted into the Children's Hospital. It is thought that he may recover.

Mrs. Woods, wife of the licensee of the Golden Age Hotel, King street, Melbourne, while picnicking at Beaumaris with her family and friends, fell over the cliffs, which are very precipitous. She was picked up from the jagged rocks below unconscious and bleeding. It was found that one of her legs was broken, and that she was terribly cut and bruised. Mrs. Woods has since been treated in a private hospital, and is progressing favorably.

Two young men named William Kingston and Henry Newman have been drowned in the River Murray near Mar-rabit. They were employed on a travelling thrashing plant, and went to bathe in the river, but got out of their depth, and being unable to swim, were drowned. The bodies were recovered five miles down stream. Newman is supposed to have been a resident of Carlton, and Kingston a resident of the Ballarat district.

Writs have been issued by James Smith and Henry Phillips, claiming £2000 and £500 damages respectively from the Out-trim, Howitt and British Consolidated Coal Company, in respect of injuries sustained by them in an accident in the Out-trim mine on September 6, 1904, alleged to be due to negligence on the part of the company, its agents, or servants. The causes are set down for hearing at the next sitting of the Korumburra County Court on February 1.

A German, named Alfred Herman, otherwise known as Alfred Peters, committed suicide by shooting himself at his lodgings in Pearson place, West Melbourne. He left a letter addressed to a friend, saying that he had nothing but endless misery before him, and could do no good by living, but could do much good by dying. He had £130 in the Savings Bank, and by a will he left £30 to the Melbourne Hospital, £15 to the Children's Hospital, and the rest to acquaintances.

A lad named James William M'Phee, aged 12 years, the third eldest son of Mr. J. M'Phee, of Yea, died suddenly on Monday morning from blood poisoning. The boy, whilst attempting to get on a horse last week, fell and broke his right arm below the elbow. The limb was set by Mr. O. Sheldra, M.B., but late on Saturday bad symptoms supervened. During the night the boy became delirious, and tore the bandages from his arm, and the surgeon had to reset the limb yesterday morning. The boy rapidly became worse, and died about midday on Monday.

OTHER STATES.

On Monday a young man named Geo. Finn was found dead in the bush 18 miles from Gormahston, Tasmania. Death was due to natural causes.

A meeting of Wellington citizens (New Zealand) has decided to establish a lifeboat service at Wellington Heads.

O'Brien and party have unearthed a 110oz nugget at Bulong, West Australia, together with other slugs weighing from 12oz to 16oz.

The Japanese at Kalgoolie, some sixty in number, held a great demonstration in

commemoration of the fall of Port Arthur.

Mr. Bendox Hallenstein, a well-known business man at Dunedin, has died, aged 70 years. He was for some years German consul.

Violet Anderson, the daughter of Mr. C. Anderson, butcher, was burned to death at Bourke, N.S.W., through her clothing catching fire.

The Victoria Convalescent Home committee is taking infirmity steps towards establishing a sanatorium for consumptives in Tasmania.

The New Zealand Government is obtaining two motor carriages to use as an experiment for passenger traffic on suburban railways.

An agitation has been commenced at Albury in favor of making the close season for game in New South Wales uniform with that of Victoria.

Artesian water has been tapped in the basin of the Adelaide plains, within three miles of the city. The supply is at the rate of over 15,000 gallons per hour.

In Sydney, owing to the prevalence of smuggling, especially of opium by Chinese, a number of casual hands have been employed by the Customs department as coast patrols.

Robert Davidson, aged fourteen, while riding fast on a bicycle with his head down at Newcastle, N.S.W., collided with a sulky. The lad's head was smashed in, and death was instantaneous.

A case of bubonic plague has occurred at Ulmarra in New South Wales, where other suspicious deaths have recently occurred. The present patient is in the South Grafton Hospital for treatment.

The Government of New South Wales has already disbursed £5000 to relieve the most pressing cases of distress from bush fires, and will continue to afford further relief until the committee of the Lord Mayor's fund in Sydney is ready to distribute its money.

A canal intended for the use of coasting steamers and fishing vessels has just been completed from Frederick Henry Bay, near Hobart, to Blackman's Bay, near Maria Island, on the east coast of Tasmania. It will save a long and stormy route round Cape Raoul and Cape Clear.

Thomas Jones, a wharf laborer, quarrelled with another man in the Sir John Young Hotel, George street, Sydney, and during a fight which followed, they both fell to the floor, and Jones' skull was so badly fractured that he died at once. Both men were under the influence of drink at the time.

The Federal Public Service Commissioner has issued a certificate recommending the appointment of Mr. G. P. Unwin to be Deputy Postmaster-General of New South Wales at a salary of £920 a year and of Mr. W. Hardman to be Deputy Postmaster-General of Western Australia, at a salary of £700.

The Fruit Growers' Union of New South Wales proposes placing before the Tariff Commission a vast amount of evidence showing the way in which the fruit growing industry has suffered from the almost free importation of fruit from other countries. It is pointed out that if the duty on candied peel (50c per lb) were doubled, a thriving industry in the manufacture of that article of consumption would be raised in the State. The commission is expected to visit Sydney some time in March.

On his return to Melbourne from his recent trip in the extreme north-west and down the Murray, his Excellency Reginald Talbot said, in the course of an interview, to a "Herald" reporter:—"I was very much impressed with Mildura. I think it is a very progressive and prosperous place, and that it has a great future before it. Of course, this experience through which it has passed may give it a check, but from what I learned of the history of the place, and saw of the character of the people, I should say the check will be merely temporary."

The Labor party in South Australia has completed the scrutiny of the plebiscite to select twenty candidates to be run by the party at the forthcoming State elections. Some of the country districts are conducting separate plebiscites, so that there may be between 20 and 30 Labor candidates for the 51 seats for both Houses. All the present Labor members and others who have formerly represented the party in Parliament have been returned on the plebiscite. Amongst the new men is Mr. Paris Nesbit, K.C.

CROSSED THE BAR.

Mr. J. W. Coleman, M.L.A., died suddenly at his residence, Marrickville, N.S.W., on Sunday last. Deceased, who was 42 years of age, was returned at the last elections, defeating Mr. R. D. Meagher for Rous by a good majority.

The cable messages announce the death of Madame Belle Cole, the famous contralto, who, after her last tour around the world in 1901, has been living in retirement in London. Madame Belle Cole twice toured through Australia and New Zealand.

Mr. John M'Kenzie, of "Braemore," Goldie, died last Sunday after a long illness. He was 73 years of age, and a resident of the Kilmore district for many years. He was a justice of the peace, and represented Willowmavin and Morand riding of Kilmore shire for some time.

The death is announced of Mr. David Brodie, of Harpedale, Broadmeadows, at

Park street, Brunswick. He was 69 years of age. Mr. Brodie was for 40 years a resident of Broadmeadows, and for the greater part of that period he was a member of the shire council. He leaves a widow, three sons, and four daughters. The eldest son is the Rev. G. S. Brodie, B.A.

One of Victoria's oldest identities, Mr. Adam Turnbull, has died at Winniburn, Coleraine, after a five months' illness. Mr. Turnbull was the eldest son of the late Rev. Dr. Turnbull, well known in early Tasmanian politics. In 1845 Mr. Turnbull, with the late Mr. George Young, settled at the Mount Kororo and Dundas estates, and subsequently Mr. Turnbull took up Winniburn. He was the first president of the Shire of Wannon, and held that office, with intervals, for 20 years. He was also connected with nearly all the other public bodies of Coleraine. Mr. Turnbull was 77 years of age. His wife died some years ago.

Mr. T. K. Johnston, an old and respected member of the Melbourne Stock Exchange, died suddenly in Cavill's baths, Sydney, last week. He had been on a visit to Sydney during the holidays, staying at the Meropole Hotel. He was in the habit of going for a sea bath daily. Mr. Johnston dived into deep water, and swam into shallow water, left deep. One of the attendants noticed him in a peculiar position, his head being submerged, or partly so, and immediately brought him to land. Mr. Johnston was then apparently lifeless. Several hospital nurses were bathing in the adjoining ladies' baths, and their assistance was requisitioned while medical aid was being sought. The nurses endeavored to restore respiration, but without success, and Dr. Johnston, of Elizabeth street, on his arrival, stated that death had resulted from heart failure. An inquest was dispensed with, and the body conveyed to Melbourne, and buried in the Boroondara Cemetery, Kew. Deceased was a widower, and leaves one son, who was in partnership with him as a stock-broker.

IT'S IN THE BLOOD.

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS

DRIVE OUT RHEUMATIC POISON.

Rheumatism is rooted in the blood. Nothing can cure it that does not reach the blood. It is a foolish waste of time to try to cure it with liniments, poultices, or anything else that only goes skin deep. Rubbing lotions and grease into the skin only helps the painful poison to circulate more freely. It's doing more harm than good. The one cure and the only cure for Rheumatism is to drive the uric acid out of your blood with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They actually make new blood.

"It took me a long time to learn that I had to cure my Rheumatism through the blood," said Mr. Percy W. Miller, 58 Waltham street, Newmarket, Melbourne. "I used to rub myself with liniments till I was sore, for, in those days, I was fool enough to think it only a disease of the joints and muscles. Nearly three years ago Rheumatism started to cripple me. My back and arms were so stiff that I could hardly move. Every bone in my body ached. My joints became swollen and tender, and my muscles were drawn tight and hard with pain. Sometimes I could not raise my hand to my head. I lost all appetite and could not sleep. I grew so weak that I tottered like a child when I tried to walk. I swallowed quarts of medicine—but the pains didn't ease up for one half-hour. My case seemed absolutely hopeless."

It was hopeless, so long as he treated it with worthless quackery that tried to cure the pain without touching the cause. Had he let the disease go much further, it might have been too late. Delay is dangerous. At any moment Rheumatism may reach the heart—and that means Death. But Mr. Miller had the good luck to learn in time that it was a blood disease, and that it must be driven out of the blood with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

"I had often heard Dr. Williams' Pink Pills praised as a cure for Rheumatism," added Mr. Miller, "and when everything else failed I made up my mind to try them. The first box gave me a new appetite, and then I began to sleep better. In a little while the pains began to ease up, and I seemed to pick up heart. Before long I was able to walk briskly about. My muscles loosened and my joints grew supple. At last I stood a cured man, without a trace of Rheumatism. Since then I have never had a single pain, so I know Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured me for good. They cured me because they struck straight and sure at the cause of the whole trouble in the blood. I recommend them now to everyone that I see suffering from rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, neuralgia, or anything like that."

People with red and aching joints; people with bruised and painful muscles; people who shuffle about with a cane or a crutch; people who cry "Oh!" at every slight jar; people who are always stiff and sore—these people are always asking, "What is the best thing for Rheumatism?"

"Dr. Williams' Pink Pills," is the answer of Mr. Percy Miller, of Melbourne. It is the answer, too, of Mr. J. M. Dower, of Bendigo; Mrs. Maddaford, of Ballarat; Mr. J. Woods, of Fitzroy, and scores of others among your own neighbors whom Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured after everything else had left them still crippled with pain and torn with sufferings.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the only true blood remedy, because it is the only remedy that actually makes new blood. That is all Dr. Williams' Pink Pills do, but they do it well. They don't bother about mere symptoms. They won't do anything but root out the cause of disease in the blood. But in that one simple way they strike at the root of anæmia, indigestion, headaches, backaches, kidney disease, liver complaint, skin diseases, general weakness, and the special secret troubles of growing girls and women, whose whole health depends upon the richness and regularity of their blood. If you are in doubt about your particular ailment, write for free medical advice to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Sydney. From the same address you can also order by mail at 2/6 a box or six boxes for 15/6, post free, the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. If you have any difficulty in getting them from your local chemist or storekeeper.—(Advt.)

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

JANUARY.				
Full Moon	Days	Rises	Sets	Moons.
14 Saturday	14	6 15	5 38	P.M.
15 Sunday	15	6 16	5 40	P.M.
16 Monday	16	6 17	5 42	P.M.
17 Tuesday	17	6 18	5 44	P.M.
18 Wednesday	18	6 19	5 46	P.M.
19 Thursday	19	6 20	5 48	P.M.
20 Friday	20	6 21	5 50	P.M.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1905.

PREMIERS' CONFERENCE.

After much consideration the Prime Minister has, at last, completed the list of subjects which he proposes to submit to the Premier's Conference at Hobart next month. There are so many matters jointly concerning the Federal and the States' Governments, which are still outstanding, that it is easily conceivable that Mr Reid's difficulty was, not in deciding what he should include, but what he should omit, from the list. Business of the utmost importance to the Commonwealth, as well as to individual States, has been shamefully neglected. Four years of federation have not brought about the settlement of many of the most important issues attendant upon it, and some of them have been entirely ignored. Much is possibly hoped for from the approaching conference, though it may be confessed that the signs of substantial outcome are not very encouraging. The Prime Minister wishes the proceedings to be in private, hoping by the substitution of informal conversation for set speeches for publication to save time and facilitate practical work. We trust that it may be so. Possibly, when the temptation to speak to the electors indirectly is removed from them, the Premier may give more heed to urgent business.

The list of questions which the Prime Minister has formulated is a long and comprehensive one. The Premier may possibly have some few items to add, but the people will be well satisfied if they arrive at satisfactory agreement and determination on, say, six or eight of the leading topics, so that legislative or administrative action may follow. Mr Reid's list of subjects is as follows:

- 1.—Taking over debts.
- 2.—Transferred properties.
- 3.—Method of paying for transferred and other properties acquired or to be acquired from the States.
- 4.—Reserves for purposes of transferred departments which cut off or enclose State property.
- 5.—Establishment of a Department of Agriculture.
- 6.—New rural industries, such as cotton, coffee, flax, silk, vegetable oils, etc.
- 7.—Holding exhibitions.
- 8.—Irrigation.
- 9.—High Commissioner.
- 10.—Immigration.
- 11.—Advertising resources of Australia.
- 12.—Establishment of Commonwealth Statistical and Census Bureaux.
- 13.—Establishment of Commonwealth Astronomical and Meteorological Bureaux.
- 14.—Interstate Commission—Differential rates.
- 15.—Income tax, federal officers.
- 16.—Desirability of bringing electoral legislation into line.
- 17.—Old-age pensions.
- 18.—Public officials of States employed on behalf of Commonwealth, and vice versa.
- 19.—Direct communication by Commonwealth to State officers engaged on Commonwealth works.
- 20.—Direct communication between Ministers of Commonwealth and State Ministers.
- 21.—Restrictions on importation and use of opium.
- 22.—Navigation and shipping.
- 23.—Pilots.
- 24.—Lighthouses and lightships.
- 25.—Quarantine.
- 26.—Copyright and trade marks.
- 27.—Desirability of unification of commercial legislation.
- 28.—Banking.
- 29.—Insurance.

- 30.—Bills of exchange.
- 31.—Bankruptcy.
- 32.—Foreign corporations.
- 33.—Currency and coinage.
- 34.—Weights and measures.
- 35.—Hall-marking of gold and silver.
- 36.—Uniform postage.
- 37.—Protection of aborigines.

There is a great deal more in this than can by any possibility be disposed of within the limits of any one conference, no matter how sincere and earnest every member of it may be in the effort to despatch public business. Already there are those outside who are hinting that the whole proceeding is designed simply as a colorable excuse for a holiday outing. Citizens have grown suspicious, and are reluctant to give those concerned credit for honest intention to work for the weal of Australia and their respective States. If the members of the Conference mean business they will probably select the following as the most pressing questions of the hour:

- 1.—Taking over debts.
 - 2.—Establishment of Department of Agriculture.
 - 3.—Old Age Pensions.
 - 4.—Quarantine.
 - 5.—Navigation and shipping.
 - 6.—Uniform postage.
 - 7.—Establishment of Commonwealth Meteorological Bureau.
 - 8.—Income tax, Federal officers.
 - 9.—Differential railway rates.
 - 10.—Bringing electoral legislation into line.
- These are the subjects which have the widest and most importance in the advancement of the industrial, maritime, and hygienic interests of the Commonwealth. We have not attempted to place the subjects in their order of merit or importance. Those which are of most general application and of widest practical necessity have been selected to the exclusion of mere questions of administration.

Whether the conference will be able to arrive at any agreement as to the Commonwealth taking over the State debts is very problematical, indeed improbable. Sir George Turner, the Federal Treasurer, is by no means optimistic on this branch of the work before the conference. The establishment of a Federal Department of Agriculture, however, is a proposal which we venture to say is endorsed by the great majority of the electors of every State, whatever may be the views of State Ministers or State members. The federalisation of a number of laws relating to matters of common concern to Australians is a necessary corollary of federation itself, or, at least, almost an indispensable adjunct to it, though there are those who contend that too great an extension of Commonwealth legislative power spells union, and not federation. We have before us, on the other hand, the experiences of other great federations on nearly all the great questions enumerated. Surely, it is within the scope of the wisdom of our legislators to lay the lessons of those experiences under practical contribution, and devise Australian systems which, while avoiding the mistakes, will not overlook the successes of other lands.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Amongst the many matters which come within the purview of Agricultural Societies, none is more important than that of putting the land to its best use by the extension of settlement. The pastoral element prevailing in the societies need not be taken despairingly, because Parliament during last session passed a law permitting the purchase of private lands by the Government, and, under somewhat difficult conditions, it may be even acquired compulsorily. The ideal condition of State acquisition of private lands would be the voluntary offer of such at a fair and reasonable price by owners competing to sell such lands. We must assume that the members of the Agricultural Societies are concerned at the fact of a very slowly-increasing population, and at the risk of many Victorians becoming exiles, charmed by the attractions and inducements held out by other countries. Western Australia and Queensland have sent land missionaries—or emigration agents—to this State to preach the gospel of land settlement in those States, and have attracted many of our stalwart cultivators thither. And although some of these have returned with broken hopes, yet a steady stream of population still flows from us into those States and also into New South Wales, drawn by the belief in better and easier conditions for the acquisition of land. Whether such belief is rightly

or wrongly founded we need not here determine.

This is one of the solid facts of which our Agricultural Societies must take heed. There is another equally striking circumstance which should appeal to them. There are many farmers' sons, and also town dwellers, who wish to go on the land, but there is next to no land ready for them. For every block thrown open in any district there are scores of applicants, and only one out of thirty or forty is supplied. The rest, disappointed with their luck, have to await better fortune, or most probably, contemplate clearing out from this State to some other country, where they may better themselves. Contrast Victoria with Canada. Premising that we do not believe in all the golden yarns spun by Canadian immigration agents, yet we cannot help admiring their methods of enticing settlers, and the friendly and fatherly way in which the stranger is taken in hand, forwarded to his chosen destination, and placed on his block of land without any delay, circumlocution or red-tape. As an instance of what properly drilled officialdom can do when directed by strong men, Canadian land settlement is an example for Government departments throughout the world. We have nothing like it here. Now, what we desire to see is that the Agricultural Societies should take a hand in the business.

Agricultural Societies may assist land settlement by two courses. The one is to make public the existence of Crown lands in their districts suitable for settlement—if such should exist; the second is to discover what private estates there are suitable for settlement which the owners may be induced to sell either to the Government, or cut up for private sale—if that be the more expeditious method. For it must be borne in mind that expedition is the important matter. Land-holders must not forget this either, because as soon as the Government should make a beginning with land acquisition, under the new Act, the land hunger will become accentuated, and would-be settlers will be eager for more rapid acquisition.

Opinions differ as to the areas of Crown lands in this State fit for private settlement—that is, exclusive of forests—some land agents and auctioneers contending that there is absolutely none. The accuracy of these opinions can be tested by the Agricultural Societies, which could easily make up a register of the Crown lands—distinguishing forest reserves—of those in their respective districts. A detailed description of these would be extremely valuable if they showed locality, quality of soil, mountainous or flat country, water supply from streams or possibility of irrigation, accessibility to railways, and other useful particulars. There must be in this country, particularly in Gippsland, a good deal of such Crown lands fit for settlement. The main difficulty about it is want of roads and accessibility generally, and if good cause be shown it may be that it would pay the Government to prepare it for settlement by the making of one or two national roads, which are beyond the finances of thinly-populated shires. This would make for economy as well, because instead of dribbling out small sums annually to fourth or fifth rate shires to patch up roads, the Government might undertake the work on a big scale. Compensation would ultimately come from the progress of land settlement and the establishment of new country population, who would be users of the railways for freights and fares.

What we propose should be done in the registration of Crown lands by Agricultural Societies could be applied to private lands as well. The register would contain a list of these with their area, quality of soil, suitability for agriculture, names of owners, and estimated value. Such information might gradually form the basis of negotiation. Owners could be sounded as to their willingness to sell. At least, the Land Purchase Commissioners, looking for land for sub-division, would be able at a glance to see what country was available if it came to a question of compulsory purchase. And it will come to that unless owners are in a measure prepared to accept what is the ultimate destiny of land in this State—its best use by sub-division wherever suitable amongst the people who are willing and able, and anxious to work it.

Notes of the Week.

Mr Chamberlain and Australia.
MR. CHAMBERLAIN has declined, for the present, an invitation sent to him from Sydney to visit Australia in furtherance of his preferential trade proposals. He gives as his reason that the movement has not yet advanced sufficiently in popular favor in Great Britain, so that at present a demonstration in the dependencies would be premature. Doubtless, Mr Chamberlain knows best how far his policy of Imperial preferential trade has met with public approval and support in the old land, but it is to be regretted that the tone of his letter, though confident as to ultimate success, is not very encouraging regarding the progress made up to the present. He recognises, however, that the party system offers serious obstacles, and that there is misrepresentation of Australian feeling and sentiment and preparedness on the subject of commercial preference. No doubt Mr Chamberlain is the best judge of the effect his visit would have in England. For ourselves, we are more concerned with the light it would be regarded in by Australians. The opponents of preferential trade within the Commonwealth would not fail to represent the visitor's mission as one of interference, saving almost of dictation—an attempt to instruct and direct Australians in the conduct of their own affairs. Australians are praiseworthy resentful of any attempt to teach them how to manage their own business, and such a suggestion, however unfounded, would be sufficient to raise a feeling of antagonism. For these reasons alone Mr Chamberlain is probably right in declining just now to visit us.

Queensland Abates Ceremony.

WHAT appalling things are these that the Government and Parliament are doing in Queensland? It seems that a special session was thought necessary, and that it was opened last week—but quite sans ceremony. "There were no salutes," we read, "no escort, and no guard of honor for the Lieutenant-Governor. This has an almost revolutionary appearance. Further, we are told that his Excellency 'changed his citizen's garb for the uniform of his office in his room at Parliament House.' That he did not perform this sartorial metamorphosis at home and arrive—if it were only by hand-some cab—in all the glory of official raiment at the head-quarters of the Legislature is bad enough; but it might have been worse. We tremble to think what might have happened had the urbane Sir Hugh Nelson simply walked into the Council Chamber in his every-day clothes and then and there opened Parliament. 'Lives there a man,' inquired the dreadful Carlyle, 'that can figure a naked Duke of Windlestraw addressing a naked House of Lords?' And we agree with his comment that 'Imagination, choked as with mephitic air, recalls on itself and will not forward the picture.' Without 'the uniform of his office,' Sir Hugh Nelson would, of course, have been officially nude, and obviously that is the next worse thing to the 'altogether.' But we have not yet done with the Queensland doings. Not only in the Assembly, but in the more staid and sober Council, Standing Orders were suspended, 'in order,' it is explained, 'to do away with the necessity of an address in reply.' Yet the heavens do not appear to have fallen and the city of Brisbane stizzles as serenely under the summer sun as ever she did.

A Plea for Simplicity

WE do most sincerely hope that Mr Bent is observing those Queensland doings. If a short session of Parliament can be opened thus quietly, surely a long one may; and it is part of the business of every rational citizen to insist that the simplification of our methods of State management shall not be regarded as finished because the number of members of Parliament have been reduced. All who put their hearts into the reform movement of two years ago regarded that as only the first step. The others remain to be taken, and, fortunately, under our Federal system, they may be without peril of misunderstanding. That some pomp and pageant should surround the official appearances of his Majesty the King, few people are likely to deny. The greatness of the Royal office does not depend upon them; but, within limitations, they are its fitting appurtenances. In this part of the Empire it should surely be sufficient if we upheld King-like ceremonies in association with the official doings of his Majesty's chief representative, the Governor-General. But when it comes to royal salutes and escorts and guards of honor and the like not only for the semi-Sovereign of the Commonwealth, but alike for the semi-Sovereign, the State Governor, and the deputy semi-Sovereign, the Lieutenant-Governor, one may hope to still enjoy the right to life and the pursuit of happiness if he ventures to ask whether we do not carry ceremony too far. Many will say that the need of reform is obvious; perhaps so, but it will none the less need courage to tackle it. "Custom is a violent and treacherous schoolmistress," says Montaigne, and he who is in a hurry to have a strong hand is in a hurry to have a strong hand.

Special Scholarships.

It is officially announced that some of the candidates for the State scholarships intended for the encouragement of students in mining and agriculture have given indications that they wish—should they win a scholarship—to take some ordinary course at the University. Very properly, they have been promptly informed that these scholarships are intended solely for those who desire to pursue a course in mining or agriculture, and that the secondary school work will be specially designed to fit them for one or the other of these. It would be a scandal if students were permitted to deliberately misdirect the State funds from the particular class of education which the money provided for the scholarships was intended to encourage. No one would suggest that the courses in medicine, law or in arts should be discountenanced. At the same time it must not be forgotten that there are already many scholarships and exhibitions open to those who desire to follow these branches of University education. More than that, a great proportion of our future doctors and lawyers are the sons and daughters of people moderately well off, or even wealthy, who can well afford to pay for their children during their University course. It should not be forgotten, also, that the University has turned out more members of the medical and legal professions than there is work for. With what may be regarded as the practical sciences of agriculture and mining, the case is altogether different. Though mining and agriculture are the two great primary industries and sources of material prosperity in Victoria, and must long continue to be so, proper scientific education in them has been shamefully neglected. Now the State seems to be waking up to the importance of these branches of instruction. We sincerely hope that the supporters of what are popularly but erroneously regarded as the polite sciences or studies would not be allowed to frustrate the early inclination to do something towards aiding our agriculturists and miners of the future to equip themselves with the knowledge which will enable them to compete with the better instructed farmers and miners of other countries.

The Reid-Granger Barlesque.

THE appetites of the public have been so well developed by their journalistic caters that it is positive intellectual starvation nowadays to leave citizens without their daily dish of politics. Doubt they would prefer it to be; but they can take it solid, and the main point is to get it regularly. With Parliaments in recess, and most Ministers enjoying what politeness—which occasionally sacrifices veracity—calls a "well-earned holiday," it is not easy to provide political pabulum. At a point when even what may be called the funeral-baked meats—adroit revivals of the dead session—are exhausted, there comes as a veritable godsend the Reid-Granger controversy, in all its amusing inconsequence. Mr Granger occupies the dizzy height of Agent-General for South Australia, yet we confess with shame that Australians hardly know the gentleman. A fortnight ago, not one Australian in twenty thousand could have told you off-hand who he was. Yet to him the London "Standard"—zealous for the collation of opinions on preferential trade—turned for an exposition of Australian sentiment. Why, save for the giddy eminence of his post as a State agent, we are at a loss to imagine. Mr Granger, calmly endorsing the "Standard's" mistake, promptly let the public of the United Kingdom know that if they did not hasten their preferential trade scheme Australia would proceed to make commercial treaties with foreign countries. This portentous utterance was at once cabled to Australia, and figured in all the papers, so that when Mr Granger "consented"—these people always "consent"—to a "Standard" interview, he "built (an advertisement) better than he knew." Observing the extraordinary prominence given to a reckless, unwarrantable and foolish allegation, Mr Reid, as Prime Minister, thought it his duty to publicly stigmatise it by the mildly descriptive word "silly." Now—and this is the latest stage in a burlesque apparently intended to disguise the absence of political news—we are treated to a "reply" by Mr Granger. He "points out"—such people always "point out"—that Australia is protectionist, and that Mr Reid is against the Labor Party. What relations these two facts—which nobody disputes—bear towards Mr Granger's impudence in first presuming to speak for Australia, and then, in doing so, using the language of menace to the people of the United Kingdom, is chiefly remarkable for its modest inconspicuity. We do not think that Australians care a snap of the fingers whether Mr Granger "replies" to Mr Reid or not; but, if he must "reply," let him show wherein Mr Reid erred—save on the side of charity—when he described the Granger statement to the "Standard" interviewer as "silly."

Australian Eleven.

ALL uncertainty as to the personnel of the new Australian cricketing team is now set at rest. For good or ill the men have been finally selected. Including Laver, the business manager, who is himself one of the best all-round cricketers of the company, they number fifteen. Numerically, therefore, the team

is sufficiently strong. What we have yet to discover is whether in play they are capable of worthily maintaining the reputation of Australia. So far as twelve of them are concerned there should be little doubt, for a dozen of them are seasoned performers on English turf. They have all been through the grand cricket tour at least once, and half of them three or four times or more. The other three men are recruits to the ranks of Australian Eleven men. Gehrs, Newlands and Cotter have never visited the old country as representatives of their native land, and the chief interest will therefore be centred in the measure of success they achieve. The two South Australians, Gehrs and Newland, have already in inter-State matches made good their claims as a trial. Cotter, the Sydney man, is the best bowler of the team, and considering the admitted weakness of the combination in bowling, he could not be omitted, especially after his fine performance this week, when he took seven of the best South Australian wickets for 77 runs. The inclusion of Darling is somewhat of a surprise, for it was understood that he did not intend to go. His presence, however, will strengthen the team, not only by his individual efforts, but by his splendid knowledge of the game. He also makes, with Hill and Howell, a trio of left-handed batsmen who may be expected to seriously damage the averages of such left-handed English bowlers as Rhodes. As far as the batting and fielding are concerned, no improvement could be suggested, and we have little doubt but that in these departments of the game the new Australian team will be equal to the task before it. As to bowling, however, even with Cotter, Howell and McLeod added to those previously chosen, we doubt whether the talent and skill reaches the best Australian standard. As a set-off, as we quoted last week, A. C. McLaren holds that English bowling is also weak at present, so we may hope to find that when conclusions are tried in the test matches in England the Australian combination will at least make a bonny bid for the honors.

The Sabbath for Man.

THERE is a wonderful similarity between the views of the Rev. Dr. Marshall on the Sunday trains question and those of Bishop Clarke. Perhaps the Presbyterian is a trifle more explicit in his language than the Anglican, but that is all the difference. In his sermon on the subject at Scots' Church last Sunday morning Dr. Marshall took for his text the words in St. Mark, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath," and he not only accepted the words as conveying Christ's directions for the observance of the Sabbath, but he practically eliminated the religious element from his treatment of the subject. "He accepted," said Dr. Marshall, "the fourth commandment only inasmuch and in so far as it conferred the priceless blessing of a weekly rest-day, not for the Jew and Judae purposes alone, but for the well-being of humanity." It is only when they recognise this that the churches are, in the opinion of Dr. Marshall, entitled to approach the authorities of this secular State and ask them to adopt all feasible practical measures to provide and protect a weekly rest day. This is precisely the position taken up by those who oppose, on purely industrial, and not religious grounds, the running of trains or trams, the opening of public libraries, or the performance of anything on Sundays which interferes with the rest-day of any section of workers. Mr Bent, our State Premier, is one of these, and there are thousands of others who are in perfect accord with him and with Dr. Marshall on this point. We have thus a large section of the industrial community allied with the religious world in opposition to extending facilities for Sunday enjoyment to the great bulk of the people, but they are actuated by totally different reasons, just as are the churches and the bookmakers in their opposition to the totalisator. Dr. Marshall, however, goes further, and declares that as the Christian citizens are the majority, they are entitled to demand the observance of the first day of the week as the rest-day for all classes.

Running to Waste.

HIS Excellency the State Governor has been on a visit to Mildura and the arid areas of north-western Victoria. Like other practical men he is impressed with the loss that is going on through our Murray waters being allowed to run to waste. It can scarcely be said that we have been blind to the fact. The utilisation of these waters has been a subject of controversy between the interested States for years. Each recurring hot season emphasises its importance, and adds to the reproach under which the lagard States rest in this matter. Sir Reginald Talbot's reminder ought to serve as a spur. When an experienced man, acquainted with the grand system of irrigation in Egypt, points out the great loss arising from our inaction, it is high time to bestir ourselves. The loss of this water involves waste all round. Its utilisation would render heavily profitable miles of country now carrying a handful of stock. Farms already under cultivation might be made to multiply their output a hundred per cent, and more. Each year, indeed, sees tens of thousands of pounds virtually running down the

Murray channel to the sea, without any attempt to save it. This is a matter that may well occupy the attention of the Premier's Conference. On their programme the question of irrigation is properly given an early place. The question is one of some subtlety, no doubt, as between Commonwealth and State. While the Federal constitution decrees that "the Commonwealth shall not abridge the right of a State or of the residents therein to the reasonable use of the waters of rivers for conservation or irrigation," certain indirect powers over the Murray (a navigable stream) accrue to the Commonwealth under the navigation clauses of the constitution, and the question really becomes one of adjustment of legal and political barriers to be removed in the interests of utility. Both Federal and State Ministers may well give their minds to a task so important.

Motor Traffic.

THE motor-car and motor-cycle have come to stop. Already they are fitting about our city in every direction. This form of locomotion has much to recommend it. Speedy for the man of business, exhilarating for the invalid, and exciting for the sportsman, motoring is bound to become popular in proportion as trade competition brings the vehicle within financial reach of the people. But some of the advantages of the motor are a source of danger alike to the driver and to those who may come in his path. The Government may not be called upon to protect the motorist against himself, but it is a public duty to see that the lives and limbs of others are not endangered by the furious driving of these vehicles. Legislation on the subject is contemplated, and the Automobile Club of Victoria recently asked that they might be recognised and consulted prior to the adoption of any regulation for the control of motor traffic. The request is a reasonable one. It will be well for the authorities to have both sides of the question before them in framing their regulating Act. At the same time it is evident that some of the club members hold views from which the average pedestrian will differ. At their meeting this week these views found expression. It is all very fine, however, for a learned professor and distinguished engineer to describe the public alarm as a "wave of hysteria," and to discourage as to the perfect control exercised by the driver. These assurances do not fit in with the actual experiences of countries where motoring has already become popular. Accidents, alas, have been many and serious. It is not given to all of us to master our nervous system even at normal times. Much less can we guarantee steadiness of action under the excitements and exigencies of motor driving. The chairman of the meeting, Dr. Merrill, admitted that some men were unfit to be in charge of a vehicle of the kind, owing to weakness of nerve. It is against these that legislation must necessarily be directed, even although it may restrict others who might safely be accorded wider latitude. Dr. Merrill suggested 10 or 12 miles an hour in city and suburbs as a reasonable rate. Few will quarrel with this proposition, provided only that cars be compelled to "walk over the crossings." There will be little objection, either, to a higher speed being permitted in the country, always within reason. The motor-car, like the bicycle, may be the good friend of both business man and pleasure-seeker. It is only in the hands of the reckless and foolhardy that they become a menace. Against such we must make regulations—and enforce them.

District Cricket.

THERE have been several rather half-hearted attempts to establish a system of district cricket in Melbourne. The principle is simply a closer localisation of the idea that a man must appear for the State in which he lives—or the county, as applied to English cricket. The two organisations directing senior club cricket—our Association and League—last year decided, in conference, "that district cricket is desirable." They should be encouraged to give prompt effect to the enthusiasm of Mr Noble on the subject. The famous Australian player ascribes to the district plan much of the success and popularity attained by Sydney cricket in recent years. Noble points out that whereas junior cricket once drew the crowds in Sydney, it is now the senior fixture that attracts its thousands, and inspires the eloquence of the barracker. There are some who think this aspect of the revival in public interest has been done, "Not wisely, but too well" in Sydney—Warner, to wit. But that to which the English captain gave quite another name, Noble describes as criticism, the most intelligent he has met the world over. Our cricket authorities will be quite prepared, however, to chance a little excitement among the on-lookers, if this is to be the only drawback to district cricket. We don't want interest to become so keen, however, that club supporters will spend the mid-night hour in doctoring wickets, as it is alleged they did recently on a junior ground here. A main difficulty in the way of the district plan is to define residential limits for the Melbourne Club. One proposal is that it should drop out of pennant cricket altogether. But such an arrangement would make necessary a stipulation that only those who played for their district would be eligible for inter-State cricket; otherwise, the special attractions of M.C.C. might tempt men to forego the privilege of

appearing in pennant cricket. Subject to this condition, and to the concurrence of the club, the road to district cricket might be cleared of its main obstacle by our big club playing a kind of loose hand—possibly engaging any team that might have a bye in the pennant round. Whatever is done, however, there should be no need to insist upon those "sudden partings that press the life from out young hearts." Present-day cricketers might be accorded the privilege of playing with the eleven of which they are now members "for the term of their natural life" if they so desire.



I read in a ladies' column the other day that salt possessed more virtues than I ever dreamt of, quite apart from being a pleasant culinary article. It was good for cleaning teeth; for taking stains out of tablecloths, and for many other purposes that deserve to be generally known. Now I learn—on the strength of an American paper—that salt has been declared to be, if not the elixir of life, at least something uncommonly close to it. How cheap, and how easy of attainment, are the many things necessary to prolong life, when we come to learn what they are—according to American papers!—

Do not trouble any more about the worries of this life;
Do not grumble that you rapidly grow older;
Do not fancy you are past the age for looking up a wife;
Do not give the joys of youth the coldest shoulder;
No! You need not go to Collins street for cures for ripe old age;
Or sell your soul as "Faust" did in the fable;
But swallow frequent doses of the latest Yankee rage—
The salt that lies beside you on the table—
Just salt, plain salt, the common garden salt.
If you take it you'll not number 'mongst the blind and lame and halt;
To the dogs with pills and poisons,
And all such old-fashioned notions,
For the great preservative of life is salt—plain salt.
I recommend the remedy to all my dearest friends—
And I'm sending round a parcel to Fliz Gibbon;
I've written many verses on him—now I'll make amends,
To the venerable wearer of the ribbon;
Then there are many public men, of whom it must be said,
To stay time's ravages becomes a duty,
And goodness! won't the girls their tears of joy by buckets shed?
When they find old maids lose not their youth and beauty!
And salt, plain salt, just common table salt;
Is simply what is wanted, we'll have no more lame and halt;
It's been used for killing snails,
And for dicky birds' tails,
But will use it now by hundredweights—
Just salt, pure salt.

It will be conceded that the weather during the week has been hot enough for anybody, even hot enough for the Salamander squatter from Bourke, who years ago—(so it is said in one of the legends of the men who carry swags in the land which is all hope and little realisation)—died to wear an overcoat in Sydney when the thermometer was rising a hundred, and even then complained of the "doggish" in the weather. But it may be questioned whether any place has quite approached Mirboo North in point of demonstration of great heat. No readings of the thermometer are to hand to show what the people of that town really had to put up with, but there is even better testimony—the testimony of a newspaper paragraph, telling how even the dumb cattle were driven mad, and how one cow, at least, in the intensity of her thirst, charged into the local hotel, and, meeting with no kindly invitation to "have a drink," took sole charge of the bar. It is not mentioned whether she helped herself, and, if so, what particular thirst-quencher she favored. But it may be taken for granted that she did have a goodly drop of something, for she presently issued bellowing from the bar, and immediately "took to the bush"—evidently to sleep off the effects of unwonted refreshment. When the men of the bush begin swapping heat stories the man from Mirboo North need only tell of that January day on which even the cows in his district "took to drink" like distracted mankind.

The heat had been great in Keilor, as it had been in many other places during the fiery "wave," and the leading rabbits who had escaped the flames met together at a convenient water-hole in the evening to discuss things after the manner of their arch-enemy, Man, whenever something out of the ordinary afflicts him, and he thinks it necessary to "pass a few resolutions" so that everything may be put right. A white-whiskered giant, who had qualified for the position of leader by a long life of destructiveness, was voted to the chair, and, sitting erect on his haunches, he thus addressed the company:—"Brethren of the long ears, years have we been afflicted by Man, and long have we suffered at his hands, when all we have required of him is a little succulent grass for a meal, topped off with milk thistles for dessert.

We have been the sport of his dogs and of his guns, which breathe fire, and spit piercing pills of lead, and we have also been lured on by him to eat oats and wheat which have been made deadly with phosphorus. It is of this phosphorus I would speak. Lately Man has been visited with an affliction of bush fires, and the people of Tumut, in New South Wales, have discovered that the fires were due to the ignition of phosphorus by the sun. Let us approach Man now, and ask him to cease from using phosphorus, at least, in the summer, lest in his foolishness he lay waste his fields to his own undoing as well as ours. We will still, I am afraid, have to look after ourselves in the winter. I move accordingly." And it was carried.

Broken Hill is not the place it used to be, and a joke goes down with difficulty there nowadays unless lead is booming and silver has an upward—and its equivalent, therefore, a "downward"—tendency. In the old days there certainly would have been much hilarious enjoyment on the Hill over the recent article in a London paper, in which Lady Violet Greville, picturing the duties of Governor-General Northcote at Adelaide, speaks of him in one day "opening a bazaar and fete, attending a review and two dinners, and finally making a cruise in a man-of-war to visit, amongst other places, the famous Broken Hill silver mine." Poor Lady Greville! She might have given the Governor-General a chance to digest those two dinners by packing him off on camel-back to race the Longana to Launceston. Australia is a strange country. First, we have Lady Greville giving us a water journey to Broken Hill, and later one of the would-be Australian naval cadets, in his examination paper, answering the question, "Where are the Antipodes?" by saying, "They are very strange animals."

Jupiter is happy in the possession of another satellite, and the scientific world is celebrating the discovery of the little stranger with as much joy as if some one had found out a plan of ensuring three meals a day and supper for all mankind. All the while, only Jupiter keeps a level head, doubtless because he knows he has heaps more satellites in the back country, which he will produce later. Or, maybe, because with all his satellites, he is too slow to run rings round Saturn. There is one point in the matter which has an up-to-date bearing, and should not be overlooked. This sixth satellite has been found by the parabolis reflector, "throwing" the image back on to a small lens, which in turn sends the image into an eyepiece in the middle of the reflector. If Mr George Reid could only fit on a parabolis reflector to his eye-glass, who knows? he might discover another satellite or two out in the far corners of the Opposition, and add greatly to his prestige and power. Or, again, if Mr Watson—But that's the idea. It remains for them to work it out.

With the mercury playing see-saw anywhere from 100 to 120 in the shade, and from 160 to a million—according to individual feeling—in the sun, there is hardly any occupation on the face of the heat-stricken earth that is worth engaging in. Even the ice men are kept so fearfully busy that they can well nigh raise a sweat in their freezing chambers. Thinking these things, and seeking a cool spot in the shade on the beach, so as to be first in with any south breeze that might perchance stray his way, a bookworm wandered with a dictionary under his arm. He had chosen a dictionary because, as he said, he could leave off where and when he liked without sacrificing the story. When seen an hour later, he was almost cool and wholly refreshed, for, in his haste to get away from the house, he had taken not Webster, but an up-to-date volume, in which he found such definitions as these:—

DEFINITIONS.

Appendicitis—A modern pain costing forty pounds more than the old-fashioned stomach-ache.
Benedict—A married male.
Benedictine—A married female.
Benediction—Their children.
Engagement—In war, a battle. In love, the salubrious calm that precedes the real hostilities.
Hostiery—Women's excuse for walking in the wet.
Man-About-Town—One who is on speaking terms with the head waiter.
Twins—Insult added to injury.
A shady nook, and nothing to do but to fool with such a volume as that, is as n. r. pleasure as a man may get in a world which is a vast kitchen, with a myriad fires flaring all at once.

The spirit of argument is strong in boyhood stage. This time it concerned the respective weights of the borrowed bicycles the boys were riding. "This bike I'm riding is lighter than yours, I'll bet yet," was the challenge thrown out by Bill to Tom, and on arrival at Brighton the two machines, of course, had to be weighed. Bill's machine proved to be a pound or so heavier than the bicycle Tom was riding, and he scratched his head, and, of course, had to justify his challenge and his bold bet. A bright idea struck him. He pinched the tyres with his thumb and finger with the air of an expert, and his face brightened. "Ah," he said, "I knew there was something wrong. Your tyres are blown up tight, and mine have gone down. Air is lighter than emptiness, and that's how your bike is lighter than mine."

JOHN PEERYBINGLE.

great severity on the properties of Messrs. Lacy, Scollion, Moore, Bennett, and others.

The flames were so fierce, and the smoke so intensely blinding, that it was almost impossible for the workers to get near it. At night time, however, some good work was done, but the beaters were thoroughly exhausted.

Monday proved a perfect blazer, with a fierce north wind blowing, which drove the fire back into new country.

FOREST FIRES.

VERY LITTLE DAMAGE.

The Acting Conservator of Forests (Mr. Williamson Wallace) expresses much satisfaction that the State Forests escaped practically uninjured whilst so many bush fires were raging recently. He attributes this greatly to the preparation made by the department last year to combat bush fires.

Mr. Crooke, chief clerk of the Forests branch, reports to the Conservator as follows:

Only four forest fires have been reported as the outcome of the recent exceptionally hot weather, and none of these were of any great importance—the forest staff having battled with them strenuously and prevented their assuming large proportions. The serious aspect, however, is the strong reason which exists for believing that some of them were the work of forest incendiaries.

Last year, owing to the great growth of grass and dearth of stock to keep it down, serious forest fires were anticipated and a system completed to cope with them. The various forest officers were equipped with proper tools and given precise instructions how to act in case of outbreaks, many fire-breaks were made, and much informative literature distributed throughout the country. With the concurrence of the Director of Education, all the country schoolmasters were requested to lecture to their pupils on the careless use of fire, etc.

The fire expected last year did not come, owing to frequent and opportune rains, but the action then taken is proving most effective this season. Scores of fires have been nipped in the bud by the prompt action of the forest staff, and thousands of acres of timbered country, and farm and grazing lands adjoining the reserves, have been saved. The effectiveness of at least one of the small breaks made last year has been fully proved. The total expenditure was about £150.

BUTTER FACTORY BURNED.

The Boolarra butter factory caught fire on Wednesday morning by some unexplained means, and despite all the efforts of the neighbors was totally destroyed. The manager's house, which was adjacent, was in immediate danger of sharing the fate of the factory, but, after a strenuous battle against the flames, the house was saved.

IN THE RIVERINA.

HOW A CROP WAS SAVED.

PILES OF ROASTED SHEEP.

Mr. A. F. Heppner, of Geringery, near Albury, lost only about 800 acres of grass and 70 bags of wheat through the recent fires which destroyed so much property. This result he owes mainly to the precautions he took when it became probable that there would be bush fires in the district. Mr. Heppner got on to one of the machines himself, and did not leave it until he had cut a wide track round his crop of wheat. He had 1200 acres under wheat, and cut away 64 acres right round the crop. Mr. Heppner is about 70 years of age, and stuck to his task with such determination that he fell from the machine from sheer exhaustion. He had the satisfaction of saving nearly the whole of his crop.

It is believed that the total loss of sheep on Messrs. Y. H. Mate and Co.'s Tarcutta station will be from 6000 to 8000. No grass whatever was left on the run, and the owners are negotiating for a lease of the grazing areas to which they can remove the remainder of their sheep.

In Tabletop paddock, which runs down to the Wagga road, there were on the 6th inst. piles of roasted sheep against the wire fences. In many cases sheep were seen that had been burnt black but were still alive, and even walking about. Some were blind, and all were more or less maimed. In a spirit of pity men went through the paddocks killing the suffering animals. Along the roadside were counted no fewer than 507 dead sheep. If someone had been there to cut the wires these sheep could have been saved.

A pastoralist in the district between Albury and Wagga adopted a method of obviating risk from bush fires, which might be given effect to without trouble or expense. As soon as the very hot weather set in he had the whole of his stock mustered and brought into the home paddocks. For some time he kept them on short supplies, and when they were getting hungry, turned them into the area surrounding the homestead. The long grass was eaten down quite bare for a considerable radius round the house, and when the fire reached there it was powerless to harm the homestead or adjoining buildings.

"MOUNT MORIAC DISTRICT DEVASTATED."

FARMERS LOSE HEAVILY.

Bush fires have broken out in the Geelong district, and from Mount Moriac, 12

miles south of Geelong, reports of great damage have been received.

On Wednesday evening the lightning fired the grass at Barwonleigh, and the conflagration soon spread from the railway line to Lake Modewarre.

Thousands of acres of grass were destroyed, together with hundreds of sheep. Barwonleigh Estate lost all its grass, and the fire was seen to envelope 500 sheep.

Mr. J. F. Armytage lost 600 acres of grass, 100 tons of hay, and 300 sheep; Mr. S. Styles, all his grass, haystacks, and fencing; Mr. Finnerty, all his grass; Mr. T. Conside, 400 acres of grass and several sheep; Mr. P. Monaghan, all his grass; Mr. T. Monaghan, 20 acres of grass; Mr. E. Batson, 1000 acres of grass; Mr. A. Donahoe, 200 acres, besides all their fencing.

The fire was bounded on the west by Luckley's road, on the south by the railway line at Lake Modewarre, and on the east by Mt. Moriac. Had the wind changed during Wednesday night, the country would have been swept to the coast.

Some narrow escapes have been reported. Several persons saved themselves by galloping into a lucerne paddock, and Mr. James Donahoe, before he reached a dam, had his clothes fired.

It is impossible at present to make even a rough estimate of the damage, but the conflagration is the most serious that has ever visited the district.

STORM AT WALHALLA.

FOLLOWED BY MORE HEAT.

WALHALLA, Friday.

The great heat of the last few days culminated in a series of heavy thunderstorms last night, followed by rains, which the people hoped would put out the bush fires raging in the district, and which have been productive of exciting and dangerous experiences to persons driving to Moe.

Unfortunately, the heat has resumed its sway, and to-day is a blazer, with a stiff north wind. The temperature this morning at 10 o'clock was 100 degrees in the shade.

RECORD AT GEELONG.

The heat at Geelong on Friday was intense. Before eight o'clock 90 degrees had been passed, and at 10 o'clock the glass had risen to 108 degrees. A drop occurred about eleven, and it went back to 104, but at one o'clock the mercury stood at 107.4, and at 2.30 the glass showed 110 degrees. Business was almost suspended on account of the weather.

TRYING AT BALLARAT.

The highest shade temperature since 11th January, 1898, was recorded at Ballarat on Friday, when the mercury rose to 103½ deg. Seven years ago the register was 104½ deg.

HOPETOUN REGISTERS 114 DEG.

At Hopetoun the fearful heat of the past few days culminated on Friday in the record of 114 degrees in the shade. Children suffered greatly.

STEAMER'S TOPMAST.

SMASHED TO SPLINTERS.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

The vivid flashes of lightning that were to be seen on Thursday evening were especially dangerous over Port Phillip Bay.

A sensational accident befell the new Tyser liner, Star of Scotland, 7200 tons, on her run from the Bay to Sydney.

As the vessel, in charge of Pilot William Liley, was passing the Queenscliff quarantine ground, a flash of lightning struck the foretopmast.

The mast was smashed into splinters, which fell in a shower upon the deck of the vessel, and into the water on either side.

Fortunately, no one was injured by the accident, which, however, caused considerable alarm to the members of the crew.

RAILWAY BRIDGE ON FIRE.

TRAIN CAUSES A COLLAPSE.

ALL ESCAPE INJURY.

HOBBART, Thursday.

A sensational mishap occurred on the railway line at Fingal, a town on the Esk River, 120 miles north-east of Hobart, this morning.

As a train was approaching its destination, it was seen that a bridge over which it had to pass was on fire.

There was no time to pull the train up, and the driver and fireman jumped from the engine. They escaped with a few bruises.

When the engine was half-way over the bridge, the structure collapsed, and the engine and several trucks, which were laden with coal, were precipitated into the river.

Fortunately, there was only one passenger car on the train. It was at the rear, and remained on the rails.

THE BUTTER COMMISSION.

The members of the Butter Commission held a short sitting in private at the Law Courts on Friday, and considered their second progress report. The report will be ready in about a week or ten days' time. In the meantime the Commission will not hold a public sitting nor take any further evidence.

A PATENT FIRE-BREAK.

TRIAL AT BRIGHTON.

On Wednesday ideal weather prevailed for putting to a practical test any apparatus or scheme for preventing bush fires from spreading. The maximum temperature recorded was 163 in the sun, with a shade temperature of 108.5 degrees in the shade. The eyelids of pedestrians blinked, and their eye-balls felt hot and sore. Everything one touched in the open air—a stone, an iron implement, even wood, felt scorching. And it was this day that Messrs. Brundrett and Longley chose for a public test of their patent firebreak.

The locality chosen was a paddock on the north road, near Kooyong road, North Brighton, about a mile and a half from the railway station. The paddock belongs to Mr. J. Sheridan, and that gentleman was present at the time appointed for the trial, prepared to take any risk from the firing of the high grass in his paddock. The Premier (Mr. Thomas Bent) was there, as was also Mr. A. W. Crooke, officer in sub-charge of the Forestry department, who had been sent specially by Mr. Williamson Wallace, the Director of Agriculture. There were other gentlemen representing various interests.

But an actual and decisive test of the efficacy of Messrs. Brundrett and Longley's fire-break was not to take place, because the Brighton municipal council had refused to permit the grass to be set on fire. Mr. Brundrett produced a letter from the town clerk, stating that owing to the excessive heat and the high wind prevailing, the request made by the firm named could not be granted.

This was a disappointment, but the machine, with two horses attached, was on the ground, and to the group of persons assembled both Mr. Brundrett and Mr. Longley explained how it was worked. The machine is an iron box 18 feet long by three feet wide, and weighs 17 cwt. On the front end is an oil drum, which will contain five gallons of kerosene. It is fitted with a pneumatic apparatus, and this forces the oil to two burners, one on each side of the front end of the box inside. The flames are thus forced, like they are in the "Primus" stove, on to the grass within the rectangular box, and consequently ensure that the grass is burnt. These two burners, when alight, are equal to 1500 candle power.

To prevent the flames spreading, there is on each side of the box, outside, a chain of plates three feet wide. Each plate is 6 in. square, and all are linked together, so that they may pass over obstacles, such as ant-hills, easily; but their combined weight is sufficient to put out any fire that may have caught the grass outside the box. At the end of the box there is dragged a similar chain of plates 7 ft. long and 3 ft. wide.

The horses were put to work, and from the progress they made it was calculated that a brake could be made at the rate of two miles per hour. It was explained by Mr. Brundrett that the most effective system would be to run this break round a property, and then bring the machine back at a distance of about a chain from the first break, and parallel to it. The intermediate space could then be fired without danger and without the aid of the machine, and thus there would be an effective break of a chain round the property.

The cost of the oil, said Mr. Brundrett, would be only about 4d per mile. What the cost of the apparatus would be is another matter; but, anyway, one machine might easily be used to make the necessary breaks in a large district if farmers would combine and commence operations early. The machine has been patented throughout the Commonwealth.

In answer to a question put by the representative of "The Weekly Times," the Premier said, "Oh, the machine is all right; but the authorities thought it too risky to have the grass set alight so close to town." Asked his opinion on the apparatus, Mr. Crooke, of the Forestry Department, said he believed that, with two horses, the machine could easily make a break at the rate of two miles per hour, and there greeted very much that a perfect test was not allowed. "We have been very fortunate with our forests this season, so far," he said, "but it might be advisable to go further than we have in the way of protection."

Just as the partial trial of the machine had concluded the rain came down heavily, and the spectators rushed to their cabs.

FIRE AT A MINE.

SUPPOSED INCENDIARISM.

Late on Wednesday night a fire broke out near the engine shed of the Long Tunnel Extended Company at Walhalla, and an examination led to the belief that an incendiary had been at work, as three separate fires were going.

Mr. Noble, manager of the Long Tunnel Extended Company, estimates the damage at £250 at least. In all, 140 ft. of tramway was burnt, together with five trucks laden with firewood, and about 40 ft. of the wood chute. Altogether about 40 cords of firewood were consumed. The engine shed was also demolished. Apart from the actual loss sustained by the fire, the company will suffer through loss of time and through the extra handling of the fuel supplies until matters are put right.

It was with difficulty that the locomotive that is used on the tramway lines was saved from destruction.

LIFE'S TRAGIC SIDE.

PATHETIC SUICIDES.

A GIRL'S SAD END.

SHE POISONED HERSELF.

THE CORONER'S INQUIRY.

On Saturday the City Coroner (Mr. Candler) held an inquiry into the circumstances of the death of Lillian Bishop, which occurred on the 5th inst.

Julia Bishop, widow, living in Barkly street, East Brunswick, stated that deceased was her daughter. She was unmarried, and twenty-one years of age. A fortnight ago witness learned that she was in trouble and seemed worried. She came home about three o'clock on the afternoon of the 5th inst. and said she did not feel well. Witness asked her what was the matter with her, and she replied that she did not know. Witness told her to go upstairs and lie down. After seeing her sit down on the bed witness went downstairs. In a few minutes she went up to see her again, and deceased said, "Do I look red in the face, mother?" Witness replied, "Yes, you are red; don't you feel well?" Deceased replied that she did not, and witness advised her to get into bed. She took off her clothes, but would not lay on the bed, saying, "Get me a pillow; I will lie on the floor." Witness gave her a pillow, and after opening the window left the room. Returning in a few minutes she found that deceased was apparently in a fit. She was black round the mouth and the side of the face. Witness sent for the doctor, and then tried "to bring her too" by bathing her face and fanning her. Deceased lived about twenty minutes after witness gave her the pillow. The bottle of liniment produced was on the mantelpiece. Witness got it from the Children's Hospital a day or two before Christmas. Deceased never threatened to take her life, but at times she seemed despondent. Sometimes witness thought she was strange in her mind. She did not voluntarily confess to witness about her condition.

Dr. C. H. Mollison stated that on making a post-mortem examination of deceased's body he found signs of an irritant poison. Death was due to suffocation, resulting from the inhalation of some strong irritant. There was a distinct smell of camphor about the windpipe. The bottle of liniment produced contained camphor and camphor.

The Coroner recorded the following verdict:—

"I find that on the 5th day of January, 1905, at East Brunswick, Lillian Bishop died from suffocation from swallowing a portion of a liniment containing a large proportion of ammoniated camphor. I find that deceased took the liniment fully with the view to cause her own death, but there is not sufficient evidence to show the state of her mind at the time. The liniment was obtained from the Children's Hospital, and was labelled 'Liniment, Poison,' and had a colored label."

BLEW HIS BRAINS OUT.

RAILWAY SIGNALMAN

HIS DYING MESSAGE.

"GAME TO THE LAST."

Great sensation was caused at the Stawall railway station on Tuesday by the report of a gunshot under B. signal box. On enquiry it was found that a man named John Boddington, a signalman, who was in the habit of sleeping in the room under the signal-box, had committed suicide.

The spectacle which met the eyes of the police when they were hastily summoned, was a ghastly one. The brains and the blood of the dead man were splashed all over the walls and ceiling of the room.

Boddington had used much determination in killing himself. He had taken his gun, and having tied a string to his right foot and the trigger, had lain down upon the bed, with the muzzle of the gun in his mouth. In this position the discharge of the gun was easy, and its deadly action certain.

Love affairs which had not gone smoothly with him seem to have impelled Boddington to suicide, aided by a certain mental unsoundness with which his comrade had long believed him to be afflicted. He had been keeping company with a young woman, who was aware of his eccentricities, but feared to break altogether with him because of them.

Boddington was fully dressed when found, and in the inside pocket of his coat was a photo of his sweetheart, on the back of which he had written the grim message—

"Like my clansman, Sir Hector Macdonald—game to the last. Thank God!"

The body was removed to the Morgue, and the Coroner informed of the occurrence.

A LEGAL MANAGER.

EX-MUNICIPAL OFFICER.

SICK AND DESPONDENT.

HE HANGS HIMSELF.

A pathetic case of suicide occurred on Monday at Campbell's Creek, the victim being Mr. Henry Snell, a well-known resident of that place.

During the morning Mr. Snell left his house to attend to his horses, as was thought. As he did not return, search

was made for him by his wife, and she was horrified by the discovery of his body hanging by the neck in a fruit shed at the rear of the house.

Assistance was summoned at once, and the body was cut down. It was even then warm, but all efforts to restore animation failed. Mr. Snell had evidently not gone straight to his death when he left the house, but yet appears to have determined upon it, and locked the door of the shed on the inside, so that he would not be disturbed in his preparations.

Mr. Snell was a man of excellent reputation and much usefulness in the district. Forty-two years of age, he had for a considerable time interested himself in municipal affairs and anything that concerned the welfare of the district. He served for a time as a councillor of the Mount Alexander Shire, and resigned his office to take the secretaryship of the council. Recently it was decided to combine the offices of secretary and engineer, and Mr. Snell was retired.

This retirement affected Mr. Snell considerably, although as a legal manager and orchardist he was in a good financial position. His health, however, probably accounted for the undue importance he attached to the loss of the secretaryship, since he had been unwell for some time with heart and liver affections, and was consequently morbid. On Monday morning he seemed to be in better spirits than usual, and when rising kissed his wife almost cheerfully, and said he felt much better. Next he kissed the children, and then left the house ostensibly to see his horses.

A GUNNER'S SUICIDE.

WIDOW'S PATHETIC STORY.

An inquest was held on Tuesday by Mr. H. Murphy, P.M., on the body of an artilleryman named George Gubby, who shot himself the previous evening at his residence, in Bean street, South Geelong.

Emma Gubby, deceased's widow, gave evidence that he came home at 6 o'clock in the evening. He nursed the baby for a few moments, and then lay down on the steps to rest for about ten minutes. On getting up he said, "Emma, I am full up; I feel my brain going." After kissing the baby he went into the passage, took down the rifle, and passed into the bedroom.

Witness went on to say that she heard her husband crying, and went into the room, and asked him to give up the rifle. He asked her to bring in the baby, promising that if she did so he would return the rifle. She asked him to think of her and the children, but he said, "My brain is going; you will be better without me." He then told her to get out of the way, saying, "I do not wish to do you any harm, but I am going myself." She left the room to call her mother, and the next moment the rifle was fired. He had never previously threatened to take his life, and she could assign no reason for his act.

The Coroner returned a verdict that deceased died from a rifle shot wound, self-inflicted.

TOOK PRUSSIC ACID.

A DESPONDENT CHEMIST

SEEKS DEATH IN THE STREET.

Mr. G. H. Bennett, J.P., held an inquiry on Wednesday at 89 Rowena Parade, Richmond, into the circumstances attending the death of a chemist named Frederick Charles Clarke, who committed suicide by swallowing a quantity of prussic acid in the street on the evening of the 9th inst.

Morris P. Macgillivuddy, duly qualified medical practitioner, deposed that at 7 p.m. on the date mentioned he was called to Rowena Parade to see Frederick Clarke (the deceased). Witness found him lying unconscious on the footpath, and had him removed to his home, where witness treated him, and from his examination found signs of poisoning. The man died 35 minutes afterwards. Half an hour later a person brought witness a portion of a 1 oz. bottle used by chemists. The piece of bottle produced had a printed label upon it, bearing the word, "Poison." Witness held a post-mortem examination of the remains, and found that death was due to poisoning by prussic acid. Deceased was a qualified chemist, and as such would have access to any such poisons without difficulty.

Agnes Rosina Clark, wife of deceased, deposed that up to four months ago the deceased was travelling for Messrs. Duerdin and Sainsbury, wholesale druggists, Flinders lane. Since then, he had acted as relieving chemist at several places. Her husband left home at 10 o'clock a.m. on the 9th inst. to look for employment in the city. He returned about 6.40 p.m., and seemed cheerful. She asked him to have tea, but he declined, and asked to see the baby, which he did. He then went out, remarking that he would only be absent a short time. Almost immediately after, witness went on to the front verandah, and saw a crowd assembled at the corner of Rowena Parade and Lennox street, a few yards away. Witness went to the corner and saw her husband lying on the ground. She called to him, but he did not recognise her. Dr. Macgillivuddy was there, and, by her instructions, removed deceased to his home. Deceased was somewhat depressed in spirits of late through being out of employment, but she noticed nothing unusual in his manner yesterday except that he appeared more buoyant than usual. He once said in a jocular manner that he would take his own life through being

out of employment. Deceased was forty years of age, and always enjoyed excellent health, but was of a particularly sensitive nature. He left one child three months old. They had been married twelve months last December.

Sergeant E. T. Britt stated that at 10 p.m. on the 9th inst. he was called by Dr. Macgillivray. He went to 89 Rowena parade, and saw the body of deceased lying on a bed fully dressed. He received from the doctor a portion of a phial with the label produced thereon. He stripped the body and carefully examined it, and found no signs of violence. Deceased left no writing, or anything on his person to show he intended suicide. The e were about 25 bottles, containing various fluids in deceased's room. From what he had learned, he believed deceased and his wife lived on affectionate terms.

Mr. Bennett found that death was due to poisoning by arsenic and administered by the wife while suffering from a morbid condition.

A GUARD'S DEATH.

THE INQUEST CONCLUDED.

NO TRACE OF POISON.

DEATH FROM NATURAL CAUSES.

The inquest on the body of Andrew Martin, a Colony guard, which was opened at 10 p.m. on the 24th ult., was concluded by the City Coroner, Mr. Chandler, on Friday.

Deceased was on duty on a Colony train on the morning of the 24th December, and died at 10 o'clock at Flinders street. He was seized with an illness. He was at once conveyed by ambulance to the Melbourne Hospital, but died half an hour afterwards.

When the inquest was opened, Dr. Molison, who made the post-mortem examination of the body, said that the appearance of the heart, lungs and kidneys was consistent with poison, either vegetable or mineral. The inquest was then adjourned to enable an analysis of the stomach and its contents to be made.

Mr. Lewis Wilkinson, Government Analyst, gave evidence this morning. He said that he had examined the stomach and contents submitted to him, and found no traces of poison. A piece of ham from which deceased had eaten was also analysed, with negative results.

Dr. C. B. Cunningham, of the Melbourne Hospital, said that when deceased was admitted he was suffering from a severe pain in the upper part of the abdomen over the region of the stomach. His pulse was very rapid and feeble. He was quite comatose, but died shortly after witness had examined him.

Susan Martin, residing at Richmond, said deceased was her husband. He was 39 years of age, and they had been married fourteen years. Witness last saw him alive when he left home for work at half-past five a.m. on the 24th ult. He then appeared to be in good health, although on the previous day he had complained that he was not well. Witness had seen in the family.

Dr. Molison said that, having heard the evidence of the analyst and that of Mrs. Martin, he was of opinion that deceased was attacked with angina pectoris, followed by heart failure and that there was disease of the coronary arteries, death resulting from natural causes.

The Coroner found that deceased died from angina pectoris, from disease of the coronary vessels of the heart, from natural causes.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

AUSTIN HOSPITAL PATIENT.

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

Mr. Thomas Davy, J.P., held a magisterial inquiry at the Austin Hospital on Friday concerning the death of John Christian Karlson, 19 years of age, who was struck by lightning in the grounds of the institution the previous afternoon.

William Timothy Davis, a patient of the institution, stated that he was with the deceased when he met his death. By prior arrangement, witness and deceased met under a tree in an elevated part of the grounds. They had been conversing for a while, when a loud clap of thunder occurred, followed by a vivid flash of lightning. Shortly before the thunder-clap, witness had noted that it was three o'clock, and when he came to himself it was four o'clock. Witness concluded that in the meantime he had been unconscious.

"I seemed to come out of a heavy stupor, as if I had been drunk," continued the witness. "I wondered where I was, and could hardly see out of my eyes, and my head was reeling very much. Karlson's face was black, and he was lying huddled up on his side, and it was lying on the ground, too. I must have fallen out of the chair, the same as poor Karlson. I don't feel quite right yet; my right arm seems as if partially paralyzed."

Witness, continuing, said that a few minutes before his death deceased told witness that he possessed a master mariner's certificate.

Mr. Davy: Did you notice whether the lightning was very strong?

Witness: It was not particularly so. The storm was just coming on.

Dr. Robertson, medical superintendent at the hospital, stated that the deceased was admitted to the institution on the 15th July, 1901, suffering from phthisis. On Thursday afternoon he was informed that deceased was struck by lightning, and on going to the spot indicated, found him lying on the ground, dead.

Mr. Davy: Did he have anything on his person that would attract lightning? Witness: No.

Mr. Davy recorded a verdict that the deceased died from shock, through being struck by lightning.

A LADY KILLED.

SHOCKING DRIVING ACCIDENT.

AUCKLAND, Tuesday.

A shocking accident occurred last evening, as the result of which one lady was killed and another very seriously injured.

The ladies were driving into Ross, a town in the province of Westland, for the purpose of attending a funeral.

In the darkness the horse stumbled, and the buggy capsized over a steep embankment.

Mrs. Teasdale was killed outright by the terrible fall, and her companion, Mrs. Thomson, was so seriously injured that her recovery is regarded as doubtful.

NORTHGOTE CHILD MURDER.

A NURSE ARRESTED.

MAINTAINS HER INNOCENCE.

The City Court was crowded on Friday with a non-descript gathering of people curious to see Edith Fillen, the woman who was arrested the previous afternoon by Detectives Carter and Murray on a charge of having wilfully murdered a newly-born male child, on or about November 26, 1901, at Northcote.

When the charge was called the accused, who styles herself "Nurse Fillen," came into court from the ante-room with a brisk and confident walk. Her manner was alert, and her bright dark eyes took in the whole of the surroundings with a comprehensive sweep, and then settled on the bench of honorary magistrates, amongst whom Captain Garside presided.



THE ACCUSED NURSE.

She was plainly and neatly clothed in a blouse of black silk with cream Vandeyk facings, a short walking grey skirt, a starched white collar of the pattern affected by nurses, and a black hat tilted sharply upward and tied with strings under the chin, a la mode. Pale in complexion, and her pallor emphasised by her dark hair, she has sharp features which are never for a moment in repose, and with her dancing eyes show a distinctly nervous temperament.

Detective Carter got into the witness-box to give the brief evidence required for the sake of procuring an adjournment. Instantly the accused transferred her attention from the bench to the detective, who had arrested her. She followed him with profound care and shook her head decisively as he told the bench that she was charged with the murder of a child at Northcote.

The detective said: The accused was arrested Thursday on a charge of having murdered a newly-born male child, name unknown, on or about 26th November, 1901, at Northcote. There is a lot of evidence to be prepared, and a remand for a week will be necessary to enable the case to be got ready.

Sub-inspector Balchin applied for a remand until next Friday.

The chairman (to the accused): Have you any objection to the remand?

The Accused: Only that I am innocent of the charge preferred against me.

After a pause accused continued in a low voice: Would you kindly admit me to bail and fix the amount of the bail?

The Chairman: We cannot accept bail. You will have to make the application later to Mr. Pantou.

The remand was granted, the accused bowed her head, and was led from the court.

NURSE FILLEN'S CAREER.

"I HAVE LED A HARD LIFE."

Mrs. Fillen appears to have had a chequered career. She gave her age as 28 years, but looks older. Her husband, who was an artist, and she parted after living together for some years. Since then—some considerable time ago—she has supported herself by her own exertions.

Speaking to Detective Carter after the court to-day, she said, "I have had a hard life, you know, and I would have been saved much trouble if my friends had only looked after me as they should. They put me into Kew Asylum for two years in 1879, and then left me to look after myself."

THE COLLIERY STRIKE.

TROUBLE AT NEWCASTLE.

MEETING OF STRIKERS.

WHEELERS STOP WORK.

There was a very large attendance at a meeting of wheelers, water boilers and trappers which was held on Saturday last at Lambton Park, Newcastle. The meeting was announced to open at 2 p.m., but when the time for arranging preliminaries began it was discovered that the promoters of the meeting had omitted to obtain permission from the trustees of the park to hold the gathering, and that the trustees in the meantime had posted a copy of their bylaws in the rotunda relating to the holding of unlawful assemblies. A hall was then immediately engaged. Hundreds of miners had turned up to hear the speeches, but no one could get into the meeting who was not a wheeler.

The most effective methods were adopted to secure the privacy of the meeting. Before the hall was opened a committee, consisting of a representative from every colliery in the district, was appointed to guard the door, and everyone going into the hall had to run the scrutiny of this investigating body. Any intruder who could not be vouched for was promptly ejected, and though there were several scuffles round the door it was impossible for any unqualified individual to run the gauntlet.

In one sense, the arrangement was satisfactory to all concerned. Only those entitled to vote on this particular phase of the strike did vote, and, therefore, the result of the meeting may be accepted as an absolutely authoritative pronouncement on the existing situation.

The meeting was in possession of accurate information respecting the feeling at all the pits on the borehole seam, as there were delegates present from every mine in the district, including those which are not on strike. These delegates gave short reports as to how matters were progressing, and it seemed that, with the exception of the A.A. Company's Sea Pit, there was to be no work at any of the mines on the Borehole seam.

There was apparently not the slightest disposition to bother about the order of the Arbitration Court, the current belief being that the Arbitration Court has no power over the men. Judging by the way the matter was ignored it certainly had very little weight in determining the situation, for not the slightest apprehension was exhibited that the miners would do the wheeling.

The collieries idle on Monday were—Wallsend, Newcastle A, Newcastle B, West Wallsend, Dudley, Stockton, Burwood, Lambton B, Ellermore Vale, and Helton. All hands absented themselves in the cases of the Wallsend, Stockton, and Newcastle Company's two pits. A few miners attended at West Wallsend, but not enough to warrant the manager in starting the pit, even should they have been prepared to do their own wheeling.

A SERIOUS POSITION.

PROSECUTIONS TO BE INSTITUTED.

The Seaham Colliery at West Wallsend, which got a start on Monday, was again idle on Tuesday. Helton began operations on the usual scale, the wheelers having been granted last year's terms. This fact does not give unqualified satisfaction even to the employees' side. The miners feel that they are being made to bear the whole burden of the reductions which the company asserts they are compelled to make, and other strikers throughout the district are apprehensive that, instead of this partial resumption of work strengthening their position, it will have an opposite effect, since it will assist the steamship owners, whom they assert now largely control the coal trade, to more easily fulfil their requirements. On the other hand, those proprietaries which are still holding out against the wheelers bitterly resent what they regard as a breach of faith on the part of the Helton Company. The Pelaw-Main Colliery at South Maitland, which started on Monday morning, was again stopped in the afternoon when the hour for the third shift to go in came round. A little work was done at the Co-operative, but the managers of the Wallsend, West Wallsend, and Newcastle pits did not even go to the trouble of blowing the whistle for work.

A meeting of Stockton miners was held on Tuesday, and there was a large attendance. A circular in the following terms was received from Mr. James Curley, miners' general secretary:—"I beg to call your lodges' attention to the unfortunate circumstances arising in connection with the wheelers, and, if existing at your colliery, urge your lodge to use its influence with the wheelers for the resumption of work. The wheelers might then ask the federation to have a conference with the proprietors, or, if they could not, to join the federation and file a case for the Arbitration Court, providing they could get no redress otherwise. This, I think, would be much better than the attitude they are now adopting.—Trusting your lodge will comply with this request, I am, etc."

The meeting decided to inform the manager that the miners are ready to start work as soon as he is prepared with wheelers. The motion of the delegate board authorising an application for a prohibition in the matter of the Arbitration Court's order of last Friday, was adopted.

In Court's order of last Friday, was adopted.

It appeared from the discussion at Tuesday's meeting of the Stockton miners that at the meeting on the previous day of the delegate board a desire was expressed by some members that a proposition adverse to the Arbitration Court should be moved. The president, Mr. John Bower, refused, however, to receive such a motion, and his attitude was endorsed by Mr. Curley. Mr. Peter Bowling, treasurer of the federation, expressed the opinion that it was no part of his duty to advise the miners to do wheeling, and he characterised the order of the Court as unjust.

APPEALS TO THE COURT.

ORDERS AND PROHIBITIONS.

SYDNEY, Thursday.

The judge in Chambers to-day granted an application on behalf of the Northern Colliery Employees Federation for a writ of prohibition directed against the order of the Arbitration Court, directing the wheelers to resume work at a reduced rate of wages, of which notice had been given by the proprietors.

The Arbitration Court to-day granted an application made on behalf of the Attorney-General, for leave to prosecute the wheelers and other colliery employees who had neglected to comply with the Court's order to resume work.

AT THE PELAW MINE.

TROUBLE WITH ENGINEMEN.

WEST MAITLAND, Thursday.

The trouble at the Pelaw Main colliery continues without sign of settlement.

An official of the Engine-drivers' Association has been animadverting in strong terms on the action of the proprietors in regard to the engine-men at the mine.

He objected to a statement reported to have been made by the manager that he could get hands to do the work at 3s 6d per day.

This official further says that all the engine-men are idle, and that the boilers are being fired by the manager, the under-manager, and unskilled labor generally, under the direction of the chief engineer.

This, it is claimed, is in contravention of the Act, and is dangerous. One of the air-compressors on Tuesday was stated to have been damaged to the extent of £100.

It is stated that a large number of applications for work have been received from men in the Newcastle district, but this is scouted by the local miners.

POSITION IN MELBOURNE.

Generally speaking, there is no advance in the price of coal in Melbourne, but to those who are establishing reserves from 2s 6d to 3s per ton extra is being demanded. Importers are awaiting developments at Newcastle, and prices in Melbourne are altogether dependent on what occurs at the mines. "Stocks are growing smaller," said Mr. D. Y. Syme, manager of the Melbourne Steamship Co., on Friday, "and they are not being replenished. If this state of affairs continues, coal must go up, but I do not think it likely to touch a very high figure."

In the case of a rise in price, householders will not, of course, be greatly affected. Had the strike occurred in the winter there would have been a considerable difference, as the coal imported during the winter months amounts to as much as 5000 tons per month.

NO FRESH DEVELOPMENT.

OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE FEARED.

SYDNEY, Friday.

There was no development to-day in connection with the strike of wheelers at Newcastle.

The wheelers still profess to be convinced that they cannot be punished for refusing to accept work at the reduced wages.

Meantime, action is being taken by the Crown Law authorities for the issue of summonses, in compliance with the Arbitration Court's order yesterday.

The wheelers have announced their intention of not paying any fines, and laugh at the idea of so many men being sent to gaol.

The authorities apprehend violence at the Pelaw main colliery in the event of the strikers being replaced by other workers. No outbreak has yet occurred, but there are mutterings and threatenings. A sub-inspector and fifteen police are on duty at the mine.

YOUNG STOWAWAYS.

TRAVELLED FROM SYDNEY.

Three youths named Arthur Isles, Leslie McGrath and George Cornwall, were charged at the City Court this morning with travelling on a vessel without paying their fares.

William Wilkins, purser on the s.s. Wyandra, stated that the accused were discovered on board the vessel after she left Sydney for Melbourne. They were with out tickets, and gave considerable trouble before they were secured, and handcuffs had to be put on Cornwall.

Each lad was fined 40s, in default one month's imprisonment.

A NEW BIRD-SOAR.

A demonstration of the method of working a new contrivance for soaring birds from orchards, etc., was given in the Fitzroy Gardens on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of Mr. C. French, the Government Entomologist. The machine, though novel, is simple in construction and of portable size. A small disc, to which are attached a number of crackers of the kind familiar to school-boys, by a simple contrivance is made to revolve over a lighted lamp. As the crackers pass over the flame the wicks ignite, and the crackers fall through an aperture into a kerosene tin, and there explode. The reports at the demonstration were not particularly loud, but an improvement in this direction could easily be effected by securing a larger-sized cracker. It was noticeable that the large number of birds usually to be seen in the gardens were not about when the tests commenced, consequently the opportunity was not afforded for fully demonstrating the effectiveness of the contrivance. It is estimated that one scarer will suffice to protect from thievery five acres, and the price of the machine is £3 complete.

A CURE FOR MIDDLE AGE.

(By "Old Boy.")

It always comes as a shock to a man or a woman to hear that they are being classed as middle-aged people. Youth merges so gradually into age that one is apt to consider oneself young for years after those who are really young have placed us upon the shelf of age. In all but a small minority of cases, however, when a person gets to be over forty, a subtle diminution of energy makes itself felt. Perhaps, if we are lucky, we have nothing special in the way of pain to growl about, but, even in such cases, there is an indefinable something which insistently brings to our knowledge the fact that youth has fled. In a larger proportion of instances the advance of middle age is heralded in a more emphatic manner. The joints become stiff, twinges of gout are felt, rheumatic and neuralgic pains begin to trouble, there is a sharp pain in the back when rising from a stooping posture, a good meal is eaten with a miserable consciousness that presently we shall regret the eating, and numerous weaknesses and aches all tend to advise us that we must begin to take more care of ourselves.

Although there is, unfortunately, no means of preventing the advance of age, it is possible to ward off its effects for an indefinite period if adequate care is taken to see that the eliminating organs, the kidneys and liver, are in good working order, because the encroachments of age are ever gradual and painless when the kidneys and liver are properly performing their functions.

The kidneys of the average person filter and extract from the blood about three pints of urine every day. In this quantity of urine should be dissolved about an ounce of urea, ten to twelve grains in weight of uric acid, and other animal and mineral matter varying from a third of an ounce to nearly an ounce. If the kidneys are working freely and healthily, all this solid matter leaves the body dissolved in the urine, but if through weakness or disease the kidneys are unable to do their work properly, a quantity of these urinary substances remains in the blood and flows through the veins contaminating the whole system. Then we suffer from some form of uric poisoning such as Rheumatism, Gout, Lumbago, Backache, Sciatica, Persistent Headache, Neuralgia, Gravel, Stone, and Bladder Troubles. A simple test to make as to whether the kidneys are healthy is to place some urine, passed the first thing in the morning, in a covered glass, and let it stand until next morning. If it is then cloudy, shows a sediment like brick-dust, is of an unnatural colour, or has particles floating about in it, the kidneys are weak or diseased, and steps must immediately be taken to restore their vigour, or Bright's Disease, Diabetes, or some of the many manifestations of uric poisoning will result.

The Liver is an automatic chemical laboratory. In the liver various substances are actually made from the blood. Two or three pounds of bile are thus made by the liver every day. The liver takes sugar from the blood, converts it into another form, and stores it up so as to be able to again supply it to the blood, as the latter may require enrichment. The liver changes uric acid, which is insoluble, into urea, which is completely soluble, and the liver also deals with the blood corpuscles which have lived their life and are useful no longer. When the liver is inactive or diseased we suffer from some form of biliary poisoning such as Indigestion, Biliousness, Anemia, Jaundice, Sick Headache, General Debility, and Blood Disorders.

So intimate is the relation between the work done by the kidneys, and that done by the liver, that where there is any failure on the part of the kidneys the liver becomes affected in sympathy and vice versa. It was the realization of the importance of this close union of the labour of those vital organs which resulted in the discovery of the medicine now known throughout the world as Warner's Safe Cure. Certain medical men, knowing what a boon it would be to humanity if some medicine could be found which would act specifically on both the kidneys and liver, devoted themselves to an exhaustive search for such a medium, and their devotion was eventually rewarded by their success in compounding a medicine which possesses the required quality in the fullest degree. Warner's Safe Cure exhibits a marvellous healing action in all cases of functional or chronic disease of the kidneys and liver, and restoring them, as it is able to do, to health and activity, it, of necessity, cures all complaints due to the retention in the system of urinary and biliary poisons. A vigorous action of the kidneys and liver naturally eliminates the poisons, and troubles due to the presence of the poisons cease. Outlets affected by Warner's Safe Cure are permanent simply because they are natural.

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—Owing to the Christmas and New Year days, business has almost been

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ful horses of all classes, and in

[REDACTED]



THE LADIES.



LADIES,

All our Celebrated Teas (in Registered Tins and Boxes) are now obtainable from your local Trader. We strongly advise you to use them. You will find them ALL we say, viz., EXQUISITE! ENJOYABLE! DELICIOUS!

McINTYRE BROS.
"EXQUISITE"

1/3
TEA

EXQUISITE TEA! 1/3 lb.

13 lb., in 5 lb. BOXES, 6/3.
13 lb., in 10 lb. BOXES, 12/6.
13 lb., in 20 lb. BOXES, 21/5.

EXQUISITELY CHOICE! 1/6 lb.

13 lb., in 5 lb. BOXES, 7/6.
13 lb., in 10 lb. BOXES, 15/1.
13 lb., in 20 lb. BOXES, 21/8/4.

ALL FULL NET WEIGHTS.

ASK YOUR GROCER TO SUPPLY YOU.

P.S. Every Package Bears our Registered Trade Mark and Name.

TO OUR READERS.

ADVERTISERS find in "THE WEEKLY TIMES" an admirable medium, and our readers are requested, when communicating with business firms, to mention the name of this journal in connection with the advertisement to which they refer.

All business communications and communications for subscriptions or advertisements, to be addressed "The Manager," "The Weekly Times" Office, Melbourne.

SCARLET FEVER AND SCARLATINA.

These are really one and the same thing, the latter being merely the original complaint in a mild form. It usually commences with sickness and fever, and more or less soreness of throat. The rash generally appears on the second day, at first as small red spots, and these quickly spread till the whole skin looks bright red, with the original spots showing through.

A chill taken while the rash is out may lead to many serious complications, so the patient must be kept in bed. A doctor will prescribe any necessary medicine. The food given should be light and very nourishing.

Infection lasts as long as the skin continues to peel off. The shortest period for isolation is six weeks, and this must sometimes be extended to three months.

WHEN BABY IS SICK

When Baby is sick or feverish—fretful or irritable, and cutting his teeth, you can relieve him greatly with

PALMER'S PINK POWDERS.

There's nothing so good or so effective. In 1/4 packets. All chemists.

UNSPOKEN WORDS.

The kindly words that rise within the heart, And thrill it with their sympathetic tone, But die ere spoken, fail to play their part, And claim a merit that is not their own.

The kindly word unspoken is a sin— A sin that wraps itself in purest guise, And tells the heart that, doubting looks within, That not in speech, but thought, the virtue lies.

It is not so another heart may thirst For that kind word, as flatter in the wild— Poor banished Hagar!—prayed a well might burst From out the sand to save her parching child.

And loving eyes that cannot see the mind Will watch the unexpected movement of the lip.

Ah! can ye let its cutting silence wind Around the heart, and seethe it like a whip?

Then hide it not, the music of the soul, Dear sympathy expressed with kindly voice; But let it, like a shining river, roll To deserts dry—to hearts that would rejoice.

Oh let the sympathy of kindly words Sound for the poor, the friendless and the weak!

And let him bless you—He who struck these chords Will strike another when in turn you seek.

SOCIETY AND FASHION.

By "Rita."

DRESSING AT THEATRES.

HOUSEHOLD BILL FOR 1904.

THE WEEKLY AVERAGE SYSTEM.

HABILLMENTS OF THE MAN.

"THE WOMAN IN CHARGE."

THE NATIONAL CLUB.

The gallery from which the classic quotation, "Apples, oranges, and lemonade," most frequently floated down to the dress circle was removed from the Theatre Royal during the recent pre-Christmas transformation scene enacted at the behest of the Board of Health—and not before it was wanted. One notices and appreciates the many changes all for the better. The pantomime which ran on till midnight on the first night is now brought within last train bounds, but in order to do this an early start is made, the curtain rising at half-past seven. One wonders why, because the "book" does not strike one as being voluminous. No doubt the modest person who is responsible for this version of "Sinbad" has kept ever before him the fact that brevity is the soul of wit. It must be the ballets and other things that take the time, for they are doing something right through the evening. Of course, the ballets do not go into the book. No one expects natural history to be closely adhered to in a pantomime; in fact, the quaint travesties are half the amusement. So when one person said "A duck ballet," and another rejoined "They aren't ducks, they are penguins," it seemed quite in the pantomime order of things. Let me say that each bird wore a blue necktie—if this should assist earnest souls who were not present to settle the question.

Massive Miss Elaine Ravensberg, as Sinbad, wears a succession of picturesque suits as a boy. One suit is carried out in brown, another in royal blue, another in white and scarlet satin, whilst the final white suit glistens brightly with crystals. A large white hat, set with white feathers, is very striking. Miss May Polard, the principal girl, also wears a white dress glistening with crystal trimming, in the last scene. The sea nymph ballet is an effective bit in white

and green, and there is another ballet in which all the dresses are of various shades of red.

As Lady Holyrood, in Florodora, Miss Clara Clifton comes on in a gown of bright pink taffetas, with a flounce of cream lace at the foot of the front panel; the bodice is finished with cream at the neck and sleeves, and she wears a pink hat with a long pink feather. The other gown is of tangerine taffetas, carried out with guipure and touches of mandarin velvet. The skirt is full, and the bodice in the new draped style, with vest of cream and basques of the same. A straw hat lined with tangerine velvet, and trimmed with black velvet paradise plumes and velvet strings, is worn. Those mentioned are the only new gowns in the revival.

The revelations which appear in another portion of "The Weekly Times," regarding "sweating" women in the Railway Department are not made before they are wanted. For some time past women in charge have been commented on by travellers, and always adversely. The facts presented do not require to be enlarged upon. It is positive cruelty to put women in such positions as those cited in "The Herald." The underpayment is another cruel injustice. We often hear—perhaps more often hear than see in actual practice—that women should be paid the same as men for the same work. Even if this idea be too near justice for present day social conditions, the discrepancy between the two salaries—that paid to a man and that paid to two women—should not be so disgraceful. The simple fact is, that by any device, just or unjust, there is a desire to bring out as great an increase in the railway balance as possible. If the railways will not pay, and pay well, without this and other things that could be named, there is something radically wrong.

A correspondent writes:—"Early last year (1904) my wife and I wrote you concerning the cost of housekeeping, and you were good enough to give a few averages as to cost for a family of eight. I think it will interest you to know that my wife has kept the actual cost, and for the whole year it works out as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	per week.
Fish and Butcher ..	15	10	9	6/2
Baker ..	10	18	8	4/3
Boots and Shoes ..	7	8	6	2/11
Draper ..	20	17	9	8/-
Fuel and Gas ..	5	5	9	2/8
Grocer ..	33	4	7	12/8
Greengrocer ..	6	5	5	2/4
Milk ..	7	6	7	2/10
Rent ..	44	4	0	17/-
Sundries ..	8	2	2	3/1
	159	13	2	2 19 10

You will, doubtless, note that this does not include husband's clothing, etc., neither education, doctor, chemist, donations, pleasure, etc., nor servant's wage, although living is included. We shall be pleased, if the above is of any service to you, and shall await any comments you may make through your column, which is read always with deep interest."

It gives me great pleasure to submit the foregoing list to my readers. Of course, they will at once observe cer-

WHY DON'T YOUR CHILDREN THRIVE?

Because they are troubled with worms. Children infested with worms are stunted in growth, dark under the eyes, have uncertain appetites, offensive breath, often internal pains, itching of the nose, thirst, grinding of the teeth in sleep, are easily tired, often thin, and liable to convulsions. Lose no time. Give a course of

Worm's Allopathic Worm Powders. A certain cure for both long and thread worms. By post, 1s 2d. BRINSMEAD, Chemist, Traralgon, Victoria.

tain arithmetical inaccuracies, for obviously an expenditure of £159 13s 2d in a year works out rather more than £2 19s 10d a week. My correspondent has discarded fractions, I observe, and that accounts for the seeming discrepancies. For instance, the baker's £10 18s 8d works out as 2s 2d per week, but the weekly bread average is given at 4s 3d. And so in other lines. The record is the first giving the "average weekly" cost that I have received. I have sought to impress on those who must be endeavoring to improve their system of housekeeping, that it is the "average," above everything, that should be looked to. Spasmodic economy does not accomplish much; it must be marked by regularity and continuity, and that, I hope, does not imply meanness.

What one housekeeper has actually done right through the year will be a guide to many others. For a household of eight people an "average" of 6s 2d is paid for fish and butler—on the basis of the total for the year the figures should be 5s 9d—and fuel and gas average 2s. Now, those two items alone demonstrate method and management; in other words, brains and activity. The housekeeper can be complimented, not only on having managed well, but on giving many women a lesson. The "averages" of 2s 4d for greengrocer and 2s 10d for milk are items that should be noted. The sums presuppose attention to wholesome diet, and in the lists in which these items figure in fair proportion one always finds the meat bill lower, and that there is better general management. Many, of course, will say that had they the same weekly sum to disburse it would be easy to manage. Not so, necessarily. Women with the ability manage whatever they have and well, in the circumstances. This list may induce others to look to their "averages" for the coming year. Since I presented the last list we have the Australian Institute of Domestic Economy in our midst, and I know that amongst the members there are hundreds of women trying to improve themselves and catch any idea that will aid them in domestic life, so that this list is presented with the certain knowledge that it will be read with a large and particularly interested audience.

My correspondent says that her figures do not include the cost of her "husband's clothing." Am I right in assuming that the £20 17s 9d set down against the draper is the whole outlay for the clothing of the wife and children? If so, the management has indeed been good; and I suppose I dare not ask what the item, "husband's clothing," really amounted to. Apropos, in the weekly edition of the "Westminster Gazette," dated the 3rd ult., and received only this week, "A Man" writes in both amusing and instructive fashion on the cost of male habiliments. "Being extremely poor," he satirically remarks, "I find it incumbent on me to practice certain extravagances. One of these is to dress on credit." Never surely was so much solid truth crowded into a few words. He names the prices of those who give credit, and they are almost as impressive as the details, say, of a war loan. Then, after casually mentioning the sums left by deceased tailors and hatters to their happy heirs, he remarks:—

No one in his senses has any desire to enter into rivalry with either the late King Solomon or the present Lord Anglesey. A plain black silk tie pleases me far more than one that competes with a rainbow. My socks are functional, and jewelled waistcoat buttons never yet adorned my manly person. Despite the possession of these simple tastes, however, my bills are so alarming that I have serious thoughts of attempting to revive the fashion of the Ancient Britons, and wearing a simple

Disease in
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**SUNLIGHT
SOAP**

restume of blue paint. If only the police and the climate would be more sympathetic I might try it.

By the way, was not "The Herald," in its leading notes the other day, suggesting something of the sort?

By invitation of Mrs S. T. Staughton, a number of ladies assembled in the Shire Hall, Mansfield, at afternoon tea on Thursday, 29th December, to talk over the objects of the Australian Women's National League. A local branch was formed, with the following officers:—President, Mrs Johnstone Thwaites; vice-president, Miss Reynolds; treasurer, Mrs Dickens; hon. secretary, Mrs Bromley; committee, Mesdames Finlayson, E. Chenery, Prime, Mallet, Billings, Forsyth, and Miss Munro. It is hoped that Mrs Barrington, lecturer of the league, will pay the branch a visit in February.

The National Club has removed to more central premises in the Equitable Building, Collins street, having leased

BUCKLEY & NUNN LIMITED

ANNUAL SUMMER SALE,

NOW ON.

IMMENSE REDUCTIONS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CATALOGUE AND PRICE-LIST FREE BY POST.

300 BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE.

the rooms formerly occupied by the Victorian Teachers' Club. Admission to the National is open to members of the Australian Women's National League only, and signs are not wanting that the convenience and facilities offered by the club will be largely availed of. The officials are—Patrons, Janet Lady Clarke; president, Mrs S. T. Staughton; vice-presidents, Mesdames Frank Stuart and Charles Moore; hon. treasurer, Mrs W. K. Gidgell; committee, Mesdames Derham, Granville, F. G. Hughes, H. M. Marks, R. G. McPherson, Arthur Sachse, and Miss Ware, hon. secretary, Mrs Ellison. Monthly "At Home" will be held. The first, which will take place in February, will be given by the president, Mrs Staughton. Subsequent ones will be arranged by Mesdames Charles Moore and Arthur Sachse. In order to bring the club's financial year into line with that of the league, the committee have decided to accept subscriptions to 30th June next as follows:—Town members, 5s 6d; girls over 18 and under 21, 2s 6d; country members, 2s 6d. Further information about the club may be obtained from Mrs Ellison, or Mrs Grace Watson, Educational Building, Collins street.

HEARTH AND HOMES.

By "Housewife."

What is the "spirit of Home" is a question well worthy of our consideration, for if the true reply be found and acted upon by each member of a household, the latter will become truly "Home, Sweet Home," not merely a spot where those connected by ties of blood and affection live as best they can, but a dwelling in which the true spirit of Home is found abiding there. A recent article on this subject gives a beautiful description of what a true home should be. Ponder the words, dear girl-readers, and see if you be, each one of you, helping to make yours such a haven of peace. "Where the true spirit of Home has come to abide, there a home in the real sense of the word has been founded. It is the atmosphere which is the result of mutual forbearance and affection, of little acts of self-sacrifice and courtesy, which makes home: not the spacious rooms, nor the fine furniture, nor the imposing way in which the household is ordered. Surely we can all cultivate the "graces of life." But such cultivation means also the willing surrender of "our own way." We must be content, yes, glad to follow another and wiser will than our own, before we shall find it either easy or pleasant work to master the "graces of life." But having once learnt that wonderful lesson, we shall find that the atmosphere in which the spirit of Home loves to move, is the only one which we ourselves care to breathe or to see enfolded those who are dear and dear to us.

Correspondence.
"A.P.B."—Your pretty card and letter received with many thanks.
"Gleaner."—The flowers arrived in good order, and their beauty was thoroughly appreciated. Many thanks.
"Mervale."—When writing again would mention how the color of the flowers was so well preserved.

COUNTRY WEDDINGS.

CHRISTIE-FRASER.—A pretty wedding was celebrated at the residence of the bride's mother, "Aide," Byaduk, on the 25th ult., when Mr J. Christie, third son of Mr John Christie, J.P., of "Garvald Vale," was married to Miss J. Fraser, youngest daughter of the late Mr J. Fraser. The Rev. W. C. Wallace officiated, and the bride was given away by her brother. She wore white silk, with a transparent yoke and chiffon frills, and a wreath and veil, and carried a bouquet of lilies. The bridesmaids were Miss Maggie Fraser, groomed in cream silk spot voile, and two little nieces of the bride, dressed in white silk, each wore a brooch the gift of the bridegroom. Breakfast was afterwards served to 100 guests in the dining-room.

GROSE-ATKINSON.—On the 25th ult., at the residence of the bride's parents, Drouin South, Mr Charles Grose, of Lennouville, West Australia, was married to Miss Jessie Atkinson, eldest daughter of Mr James Atkinson. The Rev. W. Reid, of Christ Church, Drouin, officiated, and the bride was given away by her father. Miss Grose was bridesmaid, and Mr James Atkinson best man. The decorations for the breakfast were very fine. Mr and Mrs Grose will reside at Lennouville, Western Australia.

HEWITT-MORAN.—The marriage of the Rev. H. B. Hewitt, rector of All Saints' pro-cathedral, Bendigo, to Miss Agnes Moran, took place at St. Luke's, White Hills, on the 4th inst. The ceremony was performed by the Dean of Bendigo and the Ven. Archdeacon Watson, in the presence of a large congregation. The bride wore cream silk trimmed with Honiton lace, and a veil over a wreath of orange flowers. The bridesmaids wore the Misses Ellen Moran, Nellie Hewitt, Violet and Marjorie Moran, all dressed in cream, and carrying prayer books (the gift of the bridegroom).

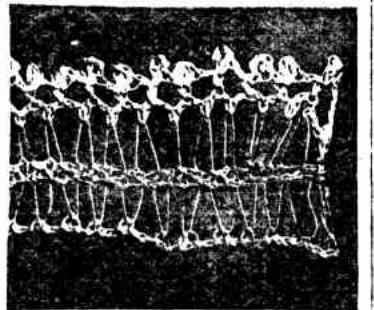
LADIES' OPEN COLUMN.

By "A Mother."

(This column is intended for the interchange of ideas by ladies upon dress, fashion, needle-work, anything interesting for children, and useful or decorative in home life; the elucidation of patterns of lace, etc., and the explanation of any fancy work. All correspondence to be addressed "A Mother." "Weekly Times" office, Melbourne, and to be accompanied by sender's name and address—not necessarily for publication.)

THE WORK-BASKET.

HAIRPIN LACE.
"Lizzie" has asked for a simple pattern of crocheted lace with hairpin braid. I presume that "Lizzie" means hairpin work as made on a coarse hairpin with a crochet hook. This edging is worked as follows—Make a sufficient length of hairpin work for the heading. Make 2 chain, 1 double crochet in the first loop of hairpin work, 2 ch. 1 d.c. into next loop, and repeat to the end; break off the cotton.



For the edge, 1st row, work 1 d.c. in the first loop, 3 ch. 1 d.c. in the next, and repeat to the end; break off cotton. 2nd Row: Begin again on the right-hand side, 1 d.c. in the centre stitch of three chain of former row, X, 6 ch. 1 d.c. in the fifth chain from needle, 1 ch. 1 d.c. in centre stitch of previous 3 ch; repeat from X. This completes the pattern, which is a useful one for children's clothes and underwear.

THE NEWEST WALK.

In keeping with the fashions and little frills, of soft materials which adorn dresses, and recall the days of our docile grandmothers, a new walk is being introduced. It has been described by an English writer as "Mincing." "The athletic stride is gone, and we glide along as if there were little wheels beneath our feet, with here and there a limp, suggestive, perhaps, of feeble knees, but only feeble enough to serve as a demonstration in total opposition to the strenuous movements that were deemed manly."

Probably, the advent of the dainty girl will mean the return of the more careful; a befrilled, fished woman must move with less energy, or rather less energetically than a tailor-built one, dainty clothes to remain dainty, must be cared for, and mothers should rather welcome a fashion which will not permit young girls to dash by door handles or jump through windows with impunity. For some seasons now "the best dress" of a school-girl has been a coat and skirt of serge or linen. It has never caused her to think of it as needing care, a brush or wash, according to the season, remedying any ill usage, hence the schoolgirl, in growing up, has ceased to be careful, and lacks the daintiness of her ancestress. Daintiness, in this sense, is meant to represent a certain womanliness which is



by no means synonymous with want of brains. Men may be careless, even rough, but the careless woman always seems to lack delicacy. The home of the careless woman is often more uncomfortable for others than the home of the selfish woman.

The dainty girl will probably take less interest in complexion formulas and skin foods than the athletic girl did, because the former will not have a contempt for precautions; she will not cycle in the blazing sun, nor play golf in bitter weather, and so she will not have a face and hands like a hay-maker's, but she will love fresh air and reasonable exercises, because she cannot keep dainty without.

Perhaps the influence of a bygone Queen, the return of the Marie Antoinette fachu, may settle the marriage question. The new walk will give a certain air of timidity, young men will think the

dainty girl needs escort; too, will feel such fine fellows by her side. A little cape of flowered muslin may cause the extinction of "the bachelor girl," take in flues

A PRETTY BLOUSE.

A blouse with a fichu effect and charming trimming is here shown. It is of white silk muslin, the shoulder collar narrows to the waist, and has a scalloped edge bound with turquoise blue velvet. The roses are of chiffon, which forms an applique with leaves worked in silk. For a fair girl the roses could be pink, which combines beautifully with turquoise blue; the belt is pointed, and the bows of the muslin get smaller at the waist. The vest is of tucked muslin.

BONUS BABIES.

The latest scheme for the preservation of child life is that projected by Mr Benjamin Broadbent, the new Mayor of Huddersfield, England. With the object of lessening the fearful mortality among babies during the first year of their life, six months previous to the birth of a child Mr Broadbent will hand to the mother a legal document agreeing to pay the sum of £1 on the child attaining the age of twelve months, thus a premium is offered on the life of a child, not on its death, as is in the case of insurance. Mr Broadbent intends to limit his movements to Longwood, his own ward in Huddersfield, for the present. Huddersfield itself has an annual birthrate of two thousand, rather than two large a district to cope with single handed.

The preliminary notes will be distributed by members of a ladies' committee. The Mayor conferred with the medical officer of health for the town when bringing forward his scheme, and it brought to light the fact that such a system has been successfully managed in a small French town, whose mayor is also a doctor. During the ten years that the idea has been in force not one child has died.

Presumably the town of Villiers le Due is a healthy place. A bonus of £1 could hardly secure immunity from death for ten years otherwise. It is hardly probable that there is a very large percentage of mothers in Melbourne who require a bonus to induce them to preserve a child's life. The class anxious to sacrifice it would require more than £1 as an inducement not to.

This season of all others is the time of greatest menace to a child under 12 months old. The smallest deviation to the wrong side of health, and the heat does the rest. Inexperienced mothers often make the mistake of thinking that because they cannot nurse a baby entirely it is best to wean it. Such is a grave error. If a child gets only one meal a day from its mother, she should take proper nourishment and keep that meal for it to have at night, or rather in the small hours of the morning. Few children are reared on food which does

not co- parative milk from a SALES. re- parative milk from a SALES. re-

A baby's bottles require very great attention. It should never have less than two; for, apart from the risk of being without any if one broken late at night, there is the certainty of one always being clean. The bottles should be washed in warm water and soda with a brush rinsed in clean water, and left in a basin of clean water in which a spoonful of boracic has been dissolved. The basin should never be used for anything else.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

By "Rita."

Under this heading "Rita" will be glad to hear from ladies wishing to know how to utilize to the best advantage any material that they have for dresses, household decorations, etc. Correspondents are requested to state clearly and concisely what materials they have, and what suggestions they wish. Ladies are also requested to reply to the various queries published, and the most suitable suggestions will be inserted and acknowledged.

Answers to Correspondents.

P.S.W. (Bun Bun).—Unless a very good straw it is not worth the trouble. You can get any of the hat dyes advertised in this paper, and use as directed.

Inquirer.—Chow Chow: half pound of English mustard, half ounce of tumeric, two tablespoonfuls of mustard seed, one quart of string beans, half a gallon of vinegar, one cup of sugar, one gill of salad oil, one head of cauliflower, one quart of tiny cucumbers, one quart of button onions. Boil the cauliflower, beans, and onions separately until tender. Cover the cucumbers with strong salt water, and soak twenty-four hours. Then mix altogether. Put the vinegar in a porcelain-lined kettle. Mix the mustard and tumeric together, and moisten them with a little cold vinegar, then stir them into the hot vinegar and stir continuously until it begins to thicken; then add the sugar, mustard seed and oil; stir again and pour this while hot over the vegetables. Put away in glass or stone jars. Cauliflower may be pickled in precisely the same manner.

Allice.—1. Pickled Beans: String a quarter of a peck of tender green beans, throw them into a kettle of boiling

OBESITY.

SIMPLE CURE FAT PEOPLE. RAYOLA, NO INJURY HEALTH. RAPID EFFECT. Gibson and Meloney, Chemists, 193 LYON STREET, CARLTON. No agents. Course, £1. 5/2 per single packet (posted). Send 1d stamp for booklet, posted under cover. (Ladies Chemists attend Ladies)

MORAN & CATO'S
SPECIAL WEEKLY QUOTATIONS.
GOOD AT ANY OF OUR MELBOURNE ESTABLISHMENTS.
Yarraville 1A Sugar, 12s 6d for 700 bag.
Best Elder Flour, 4s 6d per 200 lb. (44-45 brand).
"White Rose" Rice, 2s 6d for 100 lb. (44-45 brand).
Morton's Fresh Butter, 4d per lb.
Do. Butter in Family Sizes, 4d per lb.
Do. Ripped Butter, 4d per lb.
These are the best and just landed.
DETAILED CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.
COUNTRY ORDERS SHOULD BE SENT TO OUR HEAD WAREHOUSE.
BRUNSWICK STREET, FITZROY.
TERMS: STRICTLY CASH.

PHOSPHOL Emulsion
(Finest Norwegian Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphates of Lime and Soda.)
A Very Valuable Remedy for DISEASES OF THE CHEST, MINERS' COMPLAINT & GENERAL WEAKNESS.
OBTAINABLE ALL CHEMISTS. PRICE, 2/- BOTTLE.
Free Sample Bottle on receipt 1d. postage.
ROCKE, TOMPKINS & CO.,
FUNDERS ST., MELBOURNE.

STOCK-TAKING FURNITURE SALE.
OUR STOCK-TAKING SALE NOW IN FULL SWING.
Those who took advantage of Sale last year will not be slow to take advantage of the low prices now offering.
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LAST YEAR
OUT THE PRICES.

	Usually	Now		Usually	Now
Bedroom Suites	£7 0 0	£6 0 0	Nickel Fenders	£20 17 6	£20 12 6
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SUMMER SALE AT ROBERTSON & MOFFAT'S. BOYS' Ready-to-wear SUITS.

SAILOR SUITS.

In Striped Galates, 2/9.
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Grey Serge, 12/6.

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Strong Tweeds, 8/3.
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SAILOR WASHING BLOUSES.
Stripe Drill, 2/11, 3/6, 3/11.
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BOSTON BLOUSES.
White Drill, 5/6.

DUKE OF YORK SUIT. BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE.

PUTTING THE FINISH ON THE TOMATO BUTTER. Scald twenty pounds of ripe tomatoes and remove the skins, put them in a porcelain-lined kettle with four pounds of apples pared, cored, and quartered; stand over a moderate fire to cook slowly for one hour, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking, then add eight pounds of sugar, the juice of four lemons, and one tablespoonful of powdered ginger. Cook and stir continually until reduced to the consistency of marmalade. Put in tumbler jars. When cold, tie up as directed.

2. Quickly Made Ginger Beer: One large lemon rind and juice, three-quarters of a pound of lump sugar, one and a half ounces of ginger; pour on this one gallon of boiling water, and then cover up closely; when cold add one tablespoonful of balm, stirred well into it; then allow it to stand for twelve hours; bottle in stone bottles and lay it down; in twenty-four hours it will be quite ready for drinking; steep one ounce and a half of isinglass in two pints and a half of cold water, and at the end of twenty-four hours add it; this will clear it, and will be ready to bottle next day. The whites and shells of two or three eggs could be used instead of isinglass. Tie the cork very securely on, and put away in a cool place.

3. Chili Beer: Boil eighteen chillies in three quarts of water for forty minutes; place in a basin three teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, and three teaspoonfuls of essence of lemon; mix this well together, and then strain over the boiling liquor; then add five quarts of cold water, and two tablespoonfuls of good, fresh yeast; bottle and cork at once; do not fill the bottles full; before bottling heat all well for half an hour.

Housewife. — Lemon Cheese Cakes: Four eggs, quarter of a pound of castor sugar, two ounces of sweet almonds blanched and pounded in a mortar; mix with them the grated peel of one lemon, quarter of a pound of butter melted; pound the almonds and lemon peel with little rose water; add the sugar and melted butter when nearly cold, beat up the yolks and whites of eggs separately; mix well in four yolks and whites of two; stir all well together; bake in patty pans lined with paste.

Country Woman. — For your purpose I think you had better buy the sherbet powder or use carbonate of soda, tartaric acid, and sugar. This is strawberry sherbet: One quart of strawberries, three pints of water, one lemon (juice only), one tablespoonful of orange-flower water, three quarters pound white sugar; the strawberries should be very fresh and also ripe; crush to a smooth paste; add the ingredients, except the sugar; let it stand three or four hours, then strain over the sugar, squeezing the cloth well. Stir until the sugar is dissolved; strain again, and set it in ice some hours before using. On this model you can make sherbet with any fruit available. Wholesome summer beverages for children.

HOME AND RESIDE.

USEFUL HINTS.

To Prevent Smoke.—Before you throw on coals, pull all the fire to the front of the grate towards the hearth, fill up the cavity at the back with the cinders or ashes which will be found under the grate, then throw on the coals. The gas evolved in the process of roasting the coals will be absorbed by the cinders—will render them in an increased degree combustible. The smoke will thus be burnt, and a fine, glowing, smokeless fire will be the result.

To Keep Fish Fresh.—If fish is found to be slightly touched or tainted, the best thing is to steep it for a short time in dilute Condy's Fluid, which destroys the tainted particles, and leaves the fish perfectly sweet and wholesome, and with its natural flavor unimpaired. When restored to freshness, cook it at once. Condy's fluid leaves neither taste nor smell of its own, so that its use cannot be detected, whilst its action is easily verified.

Scrubbing Brushes.—Some servants have a habit of letting the scrubbing brush remain in the water when carrying the pail from one place to another when scrubbing floors. This spoils the brush before it is half worn out, causing it to become soft, instead of firm, as it is when new. If the brush is just dipped in the water when scrubbing, which is quite sufficient, and, when done with, hung up to dry, it will wear very much longer.

To Remove Stains.—Tar may be removed from linen by rubbing the stain with butter, and then washing it out with warm water and turpentine. Paint and varnish come out with turpentine. Ink may be removed by a weak oxalic acid and lemon juice solution. Dissolve a tablespoonful of oxalic acid and one of lemon juice in a pint of rain water, and keep it on hand in a bottle. As soon as the spots are removed, wash out the stain of the mixture in clear, cold water.

To Clean Brass Benares Trays.—Wash the tray with hot soap and water, and if very dirty put a little soda or ammonia into the water. Take the tray out of the soapy water, pour boiling water over it, and let it soak for half an hour. Dry carefully with a soft cloth. Take a fresh lemon, cut it in half, and rub the tray vigorously with it. This will make the tray beautifully bright after the washing. Should any stains remain, rub them with lemon dipped into fine salt. Polish with a leather.

Put a prettily-cut shape of the white of egg on the top of each.

"HIGH TEAS."

This is a nondescript meal of some antiquity, much patronised in many households where from divers reasons the more elaborate late dinner is inconvenient.

It is voted pernicious by some on account of the indigestible beverage imbibed with it, viz., tea. Often, however, something else is provided to choose from, so this objection is removed, and there is something very homely and soothing in the freedom gained, etc.

It is very usual to find some dishes of a more substantial nature provided for the elder members of the family, lighter varieties being intended for the juniors. In summer the early hour generally fixed leaves a pleasantly long evening for walks, riding, etc.

WHAT TO PROVIDE.

Cakes, meat preparations, hot or cold, or both; sandwiches; fish preparations, hot or cold, or both; salads, savoury or sweet; cold sweets and pastry; fruit; scones; hot tea-cakes; cut bread and butter and a nice crusty loaf.

RECIPES SUITABLE FOR THIS MEAL.

Fish with Wine Sauce.—Required: Three fish, three tablespoonfuls of crumbs, three tablespoonfuls of suet, three tablespoonfuls of chopped parsley, three tablespoonfuls of chopped mixed herbs, one egg, salt, pepper, milk if necessary, one and a half ounces of butter, one small onion or shallot, sherry, or any white wine just to cover. Wash, dry, remove heads and tails, and split fish open. Mix crumbs with the chopped suet, parsley, herbs, and bind stiffly with the egg, beaten, using a little milk if the egg does not moisten it enough. Season well, and divide this stuffing into three, placing a portion in each fish. Press the fish together and roll them in a little flour. Chop the onion very finely. Grease a fireproof dish with some of the butter. Shake over it the onion. Lay in the fish. Put the rest of the butter on the top of them. Pour over the wine. Bake in a quick oven for about twenty minutes. Baste them frequently with the liquid during the cooking. Serve at once in the dish they were cooked in. Hand this brown bread and butter.

Curry Sandwiches.—Required: Four ounces of chopped chicken, veal, or rabbit (cooked); two ounces of chopped ham or tongue (cooked); half an ounce of butter, half an ounce of flour, half a pint of stock, one teaspoonful of curry paste or powder, twelve shredded almonds, two teaspoonfuls of chutney, stale bread, two ounces of dripping, parsley. Melt the butter in a saucepan. Add and stir in the curry paste and the flour. Pour in the stock (if hot, by degrees). Stir till it boils. Add the chicken, ham, chutney and almonds. Mix and season carefully. Stir gently about five minutes for the meat to become flavored with the sauce. Cut the bread into thin rounds about the size of the top of a clarified glass. Fry these in the dripping, made so hot that a faint smoke rises from it. Drain them on paper. Put a good layer of the meat mixture between two of the rounds, pressing them lightly together. Make very hot in a quick oven. Garnish with fried parsley, after arranging them in a hot dish on a lace paper.

Eggs a la Sauton.—Required: Six hard-boiled eggs, one and a half ounces of butter, two ounces of flour, one and

ally being the substitute for the cheese; in fact, many never touch the sweets, and await the arrival of the savory.

Savory Olives (cold).—Required: Two or three olives for each guest; anchovy paste, fresh butter, slices of brown bread, hard-boiled eggs. Take two teaspoonfuls of butter and the same of the anchovy paste, more or less according to the number of olives. Mix these well. Turn the olives—that is, peel them round and round, so that, after the stone is out, it can be rolled round again in its original shape. Roll up a morsel of the anchovy butter to resemble the stone, and put it in its place. Stamp out some small, thin threads of bread-and-butter about the size of a two-shilling piece. Shell the egg, separate the white and the yolk. Chop the white finely, and powder the yolk through a fine strainer. Spread some of the yolk on the rounds of bread and butter. Press an olive on to each in an upright position. Put a ring round of chopped white. Serve on lace papers. Note.—Any fish paste can be used, or foie gras, and white bread in place of brown.

Chelsea Rolls (hot).—Required: Half a pound of cold potatoes, streaky bacon, one or two oysters for each guest, parsley, pepper and salt, one raw egg, butter. Mash the potatoes with a little warmed butter, about three tablespoonfuls to half a pound of potato. Season well. Add just enough flour to make it into a paste which can be lightly rolled. Roll it out, or flatten it out on a floured board till about half an inch thick. Cut it into squares of about two inches. Have a very thin rasher of bacon for each oyster. Beard the latter. Dip them in a little chopped parsley. Roll them up in the bacon. Place these rolls on a square of potato. Roll lightly up in the potato. Smooth out any cracks caused by the rolling. Leave the ends open. Brush all over with beaten egg. Place on a greased tin, and bake about ten or fifteen minutes or till browned. Serve at once on a pretty lace paper.

College Creams (Cold).—Required: For the cheese pastry—Two ounces of flour, one yolk of egg, two ounces of butter, two ounces of cheese, salt, cayenne, cold water. For the cream—One gill of cream, two tablespoonfuls of grated Parmesan cheese, salt, cayenne.

Make the pastry before you require it, say three or four hours before.

To mix it: Mix the cheese and flour. Lightly rub in the butter. Season well. Add enough beaten yolk of egg and water to make a stiff paste. Roll out quarter of an inch thick. Stamp out the paste into rounds the size of a sherry glass.

Bake carefully about eight to ten minutes, or till a delicate biscuit color, in a moderate oven. Let them cool.

For the cream—Whip the cream till it just hangs on your whisk. Add the cheese. Season carefully. Heap up high on the cold cheese-biscuits. Serve cold on a lace paper.

Note.—Other cheese will do, but Parmesan has a better flavor.

Croustons of Roe (Hot).—Required: Four ounces of dried cod's roe, two ounces of butter, salt and pepper, half a lemon, one hard-boiled egg, nutmeg, hot buttered toast.

Soak the roe for two or three hours in cold water. Chop it in small pieces. Pound it with one ounce of butter and the yolk of the egg. Rub through a wire sieve.

Season with lemon-juice, salt, and pepper. Put into a slightly buttered pan. Make very hot. Serve heaped up on rounds of very hot, buttered toast.

HOMEY FARE.

Housewife sends this: — Lemon marmalade: Six lemons, cut into thin slices, cover with 12 cups of water, and let stand 36 hours; then boil two hours without sugar and one hour with five pounds of sugar. This recipe has been tried, and is also very good.

Housewife sends the following: — Cream Puffs: One cup water, half teaspoonful salt, quarter butter, one cup flour, three eggs. Put water in a saucepan with butter and salt; when boiling add flour and then put into a basin and add the eggs not beaten; mix well, and bake in pieces size of a walnut, about 20 minutes. This recipe is very good. I have used it many times.

NICE SAVOURIES.

Sir Henry Thompson says: "The palate must be rendered 'clean,' prepared to rest, or, perchance, to relish the last glass of wine, by the delicate savory morsel which terminates the menu." Without doubt this tasty but often simple plat plays a very important part in the modern dinner, usually being the substitute for the cheese; in fact, many never touch the sweets, and await the arrival of the savory.



HIGH-CLASS COOKERY.

HOW DISHES SHOULD LOOK.

Line the sides of a plain charlotte-mould or soufflé tin with finger or savory biscuits, slightly trimmed to fit close to each other. The ends of one side must cut off to make the biscuits stand nicely in the mould.

Run a thin layer of half-set sweet jelly into the bottom of the mould, and place a glace cherry in the centre, with a few fancifully cut slices of angelica, if liked.

Soak half an ounce of gelatine in a little cold milk (about three-quarters of a gill), warm this up whilst stirring over the fire, and add half an ounce of castor sugar and a few drops of vanilla essence. Whip up half a pint of good cream.

Strain the milk, etc., into a basin. When nearly cold add the whipped cream and stir on the ice or in a cool place till it begins to set, then pour it into the prepared mould. This must be done carefully so as not to disturb the biscuits.

Keep the mould in a cold place for about an hour, then turn out on a cold dish, garnish it with chopped sweet jelly, and serve.

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A Valuable adjunct to Infants' Diet.

Prevents the child from becoming fat, and avoids the trouble of indigestion, should use it.

PHOSPHATINE

FOOD FOR INFANTS & INVALIDS

AND CHILDREN AND OLD PEOPLE.

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COUNTRY BUYERS, NOTE.—We send all over the State of Victoria on our Time-payment system, and shall be pleased to forward patterns and self-measurement form on receipt of letter. Our new Spring Catalogue is now ready, and will be posted to any address on application.

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GOLD MEDAL, Woman's Exhibition, London (Eng.), 1900.

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A CLEARING SALE—THE MAGNITUDE OF WHICH IS ASTOUNDING, NOT ONLY IN THE SWEEPING PRICE REDUCTIONS, BUT IN THE ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF NEW SEASON'S GOODS OFFERED.

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THE OPPORTUNITY FOR SAVING MONEY IS HERE.

ACCEPT THIS INVITATION AND PAY US A VISIT. THERE IS MUCH FOR YOU TO SEE. THERE IS MORE TO INTEREST YOU IF YOU ARE READY TO BUY, BUT NO MATTER.

WHETHER YOU COME TO LOOK OR BUY, COME!

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a quarter gills of milk, four raw eggs, two ounces of cooked ham, four ounces of cooked chicken or veal, one teaspoonful each of chopped parsley and shallot; salt, pepper, bread-crumbs, frying fat. Melt the butter in a saucepan. Add the flour and mix smoothly. Pour in the milk. Stir over the fire till it boils, and cook slowly till it will leave the sides of the pan without sticking. Let cool for a few minutes, then beat in briskly two of the raw eggs. Stir in the mixture of the chopped ham, chicken, parsley and shallot. Season well, and turn on to a plate to cool, and the hard-boiled eggs. Cut them in halves lengthways. Take out the yolks. Beat them through a wire sieve or strainer. Mix the yolks thus powdered into the chicken mixture. Next fill each egg-mould with the mixture, spreading a little of it all over the white, then brush each half egg thus prepared with raw beaten egg, then roll in bread-crumbs, and fry in a deep fat half egg thus. Fry in a deep fat till a golden-brown. Drain on paper. Serve very hot, garnished with fried parsley and lemon if liked.

Stirling's soufflé.—Required: One pound of flour, half a pound of butter, four ounces of castor-sugar, one egg. Put the butter in a basin. Work with a wooden spoon or a hand till rather soft. Add the sugar and egg. Mix together lightly. Add the flour gradually, kneading it well. Shape into two or more round cakes, according to the size required. Bake in a moderate oven. The cakes will with a fork. Bake very slowly till a very pale brown. Turn with sieved castor-sugar, but do not move till cold.

Almond Tarts.—Required: Ten ounces of ground almonds, four ounces of castor-sugar, one white of egg, almond essence and lemon juice to taste, raspberry jam. For the pastry: Half a pound of flour, six ounces of butter, two ounces of castor-sugar, one yolk of egg, water, an ounce of preserved cherries. Make the pastry first. Mix the flour and sugar. Lightly rub in the butter. Beat up the yolk of egg with two tablespoonfuls of cold water. Mix the flour, etc., lightly to a paste with these two. Do not make the paste too moist, but more water may be used if needed. Roll out the pastry on a floured board rather thinly. Cut it into rounds, and place these in greased tarts. To make the mixture: Mix the ground almonds and sugar. Whip the white of egg very stiffly. Stir it into the almonds. Flavour with the almond essence and lemon juice. Put a little jam into each tart case. Cover over jam with the almond mixture, slightly heaping it up. Smooth the tops over with a knife dipped in water. Put half a preserved cherry in the centre of each. Bake in not too quick an oven. Use hot or cold.

THE KITCHEN IN SUMMER TIME.

HOW TO KEEP IT COOL.

Under conditions most favorable it is often a work of great difficulty to arrange this important department so that it shall be bearable during the hot months. Unfortunately, it is generally to act as the servants' living-room, except in large houses, where there is a servants' hall, or where the arrangements are such that a room, perhaps but little used, can be given up to them during the heat.

To be perfect the kitchen should contain a gas-stove, or where that is impossible a good-sized oil-stove will do wonders. If the room is sunny have some arrangement, never mind how home-made or primitive, whereby the glare and heat can be shut off from both doors and windows.

It is a popular notion that cooks adore heat, and can stand an unlimited amount of it. Personally I doubt that theory.

If you have not a gas-stove, and are living in a district with gas laid on, you can hire one from the gas company for very little a quarter. A fair-sized one costs two and sixpence to hire for that period. Of course, you have to pay for the fixing.

Paterfamilias, however, is apt to grow over the periodical gas account, but an enormous amount may be saved not only below but above stairs by—

1. Regulating the supply of gas, lowering it when possible, and turning it out immediately it is not needed.
2. Asking your gasfitter to supply burners of a pattern which afford a good light, but which by their construction limit the supply.
3. Using a steamer with different compartments, so that several items of the menu may be cooked over one boiling-water.

RULES FOR MANAGING AN OIL-STOVE.

1. Select one made by a good firm.
2. Use good oil.
3. Trim the wicks evenly.
4. Have every part of the stove free from oil or grease of any kind.
5. Turn the wicks rather low for the first five minutes, then as full as you can without smoking. The oven will take about fifteen minutes to heat.

If these hints are followed, these little stoves are a real boon in a home, and when looked after properly should neither blacken the pans nor give out the least smell.

The preservation of food is a matter of great anxiety just now to those living in flats and houses where the architect happened to forget that people must eat to live, and usually desire to keep a few articles of diet from day to day.

1. Never mind what cupboard or shelf acts as your larder. See it is at least clean—that is the main point. Wash it each day; and, if liked, a little Condy's Fluid or Sanitas may be added to the washing water.
2. Put all scraps on clean dishes, and remove at once anything that is in the smallest degree tainted or sour.
3. Keep meat, game, poultry, or fish, whether raw or cooked, covered with wire gauze covers or muslin, to keep off the flies. Dust pepper or ground ginger freely on the covers.
4. It is better to partly bake or boil meat or fish, if it must be kept, than to risk it becoming tainted.
5. Put all stock or soups into clean basins, straining out the vegetables, otherwise they will often be sour in the morning.
6. It is wisest to save milk over-night; it rarely keeps. Jugs and pans require thorough cleansing and sweetening each day.
7. Burn at once all scraps and refuse that are impossible to use.

A CHAT ON FRUIT SALADS.

Fruit salads should be in great favor at this season of the year. They are cool, refreshing, and wholesome, and need not be very expensive.

I believe the last year or two they have come into more "everyday" use, but not as much as I should like to see.

They are delicious concoctions and are suitable for serving at dinners, lunches, or garden parties.

I must the following suggestions will be useful to my readers—

Pig and Raspberry Salad.—Ripe, fresh figs, quartered, and laid for three hours to soak in three-quarters of a pint of raspberry and red currant juice, and then piled up in a glass bowl and covered with cream which has been whipped and flavored.

Pear Salad.—Pears peeled and quartered, and stewed in equal quantities of white wine and water and a little sugar till tender, and then mixed with freshly-stalked raspberries, strawberries, and a few blanched almonds or pistachio nuts, and a little white wine poured over. And on the top of all grate a little lemon-rind.

Rose Petal Salad.—Take a breakfast-cupful of the freshest rose petals you can gather, look them over carefully, then put them in half a pint of cream and work them about with a wooden spoon to bruise them. When the cream is well scented, strain out the leaves, heap some fresh strawberries on a dish, sprinkle them with castor sugar. Strain over the juice of a small lemon, and pour over two glasses of sherry or any white wine. Over all put the rose-petal cream, and place on ice till required.

Banana and Salad.—Peel six bananas, cut them in two lengthways, then divide each piece again. Peel two oranges and carefully remove all pith. Put the bananas and oranges in a glass bowl or dish, add a squeeze of lemon juice, a good tablespoonful of curacao, the juice which has come from the oranges, a good dust of castor sugar, and, if liked, a tablespoonful of brandy. Let this stand for an hour turning the fruit now and then. See you leave them nicely arranged in the dish.

OIL FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.

Cod-liver oil is invaluable for children who are inclined to develop rickets. It is a food as well as a medicine, and they should take it all the year round except during the very hottest part of summer. But it is useless to give big doses; if this is done, the child will probably be unable to digest it, and it will do more harm than good. To a child a year old a teaspoonful may be given once or twice a day after food. If there is difficulty in getting them to take the oil, try one of the good prepared brands of emulsion or extract of malt with cod-liver oil. These are not unpleasant to take, and are easily digested.

MARGARET A. BIGNELL, Pharmaceutical Chemist, 116 Lygon St., Carlton, Melbourne. Country orders sent by return of post.

NURSERY NOTES.

Bad Burns.—For the burn itself, spread boracic ointment on lint, and lay this over until the doctor arrives. Boracic ointment and lint should find a place in every nursery. Get the little one into bed as soon as possible. Cover warmly, and apply hot-water bottles to the feet and abdomen. If conscious, it is a good plan to give a little hot milk.

To Take a Pill.—Don't place the pill itself too far back in the mouth; put it on the front of the tongue, raise the head, drink a little water, and it is gone.

To Make Lime-water.—Put two ounces of freshly prepared slaked lime into a stoppered jar. Add one gallon of cold water, shake thoroughly, leave for several hours, then strain off carefully, to keep free from sediment. Bottle, and use as required.

For Hand-fed Babies.—To prepare cow's milk so that it is nearly as possible resembles human milk, slightly warm half a pint of milk and add it to a tea-spoonful of essence of rice. This will make it curdle. Then the curd is thoroughly broken by stirring with a spoon, boiled and strained through a piece of muslin that has been wrung out of boiling water. Add the strained whey to half a pint of milk. Stir in half a tea-spoonful of sugar, and it is ready for use.

Night Feeding.—For the first month baby will need two meals during the night. After that, feed at ten or eleven o'clock, and then allow him to sleep for six hours without being disturbed.

The Age for Vaccination.—Three months is the best age to have children vaccinated. By this time they are generally much stronger than at birth, but have not yet begun cutting their teeth.

To Sterilise Milk.—Heat to about 170 degrees Fahrenheit. Keep at this temperature for half an hour.

Flatulence or wind is a sign that in some way the digestive organs are being taxed too severely. Sometimes it is caused by the giving of too much food; or it may be because, for some reason or other, the little one is not digesting his food. The diet should be carefully regulated, and a few drops of peppermint given in a little hot water several times a day.

Sickness, as a rule, is due to indigestion, and the cure lies in the amendment of the diet. For treatment of the attack, give small pieces of ice to suck. A pinch of bicarbonate of soda in a little peppermint water several times a day will alleviate the vomiting.

After mumps children generally need a tonic. Malt extract and Parilla's food are both good. In the convalescent stage great care should be taken to keep out of draughts. The bowels must be kept open. Half a teaspoonful of castor oil in a little water half an hour before breakfast is a very good aperient.

Suitable foods for children recovering from a severe illness, when they have got beyond the dangerous stage are milk, best tea, mutton, veal, or chicken broth, egg and milk, pudding, white fish, chicken, and boiled or roast mutton.

Invalid Mutton Broth.—Cut half a pound of lean uncooked mutton into small pieces. Put into a saucepan with one pint of water, and salt to taste. Bring slowly to boiling point, and simmer slowly for at least two hours.

COMFORTERS.

Don't let baby suck one of those indiarubber comforters if you want him to be healthy. Constant sucking causes an increased flow of saliva, and this, if wasted in this way, is not forthcoming in sufficient quantities for digestive purposes. Another objection is that the "comforter" becomes in time a kind of germ hot-bed, and may be a great source of danger.

THE BABY'S EARS.

Many children have ears that stand out; this is always more or less an eyecore to the mother, and disfiguring to the child when older. With a little trouble this may be overcome.

First, never allow the child to lie on his side with ear doubled over; be careful when his cap is put on when he goes out that the ears are carefully laid back against the head.

If the case is a stubborn one, and the ears persist in standing out, take about a yard of gauze-bandage, one end a half inch wide, place the centre of this strip on the forehead, and bring the ends down on either side of the head, covering the upper part of the ears; carry it down, crossing the ends at the back of the neck, and bring up over the ears a trifle lower than before, and fasten with a safety-pin just over where you started. This should be done every night when the child goes to bed. The bandage may also be worn during the day if necessary. Before putting it on, dust a little powder behind the ears to prevent chafing. It should be put on fairly tightly, or it will not keep in place.

HEALTH HINTS.

Cure for Obesity.—"Drink all the water you want between meals, but none with your food," is the latest cure for obesity.

Oranges for Bad Throats.—An orange put in the oven and baked will be found an excellent cure for bad throats, if eaten just before retiring for the night.

Breathe Properly.—Nervousness and a hollow skin come frequently from the lack of deep breathing. Deep breathing stimulates the circulation and helps the body to throw off its impurities.

For a Fainting Fit.—In case of fainting lay the person flat on the back, keep the people at a distance so the sufferer will have plenty of fresh air. Sprinkle the face with water and apply spirits of hartshorn to the nose.

How to Prevent Colds.—Put a few drops of eucalyptus oil on a handkerchief and occasionally. This is excellent for both preventing and curing colds. When applied externally the oil is good for neuralgia, tic, or toothache. Cure for Sleeplessness.—Sleeplessness on a cold night is often caused by the head, which is exposed, being cold whilst the rest of the body is warm. In nine cases out of ten if a silk handkerchief is put over the head it will induce the much-desired sleep.

Coffee Purifies the Air.—Coffee is a fairly good air purifier. A little burnt on hot coals will purify a sick room, and abolish bad smells. Many physicians think highly of the bracing effects of coffee, taken before they visit cases of infectious disease.

Danger of Veils.—A German physician has discovered that the wearing of tight lace veils may easily produce skin troubles. The nets catch and hold dust, and entrap all general impurities of the air, and endanger not only the complexion but the lungs.

Cure for Corns.—Boil a potato in its skin, and after it is boiled take the skin and put the inside of it to the corn, and leave it on for twelve hours. At the end of that period the corn will be much better. The above useful and simple recipe has been tried, and found to be a perfect remedy.

WEDDINGS.

THE INVITATIONS.

Says an English paper:—The invitation forms vary somewhat from time to time, and one's best plan is to strike out some simple and original design, or to go to a good firm of stationers and ask to see cards in the latest fashion.

But though the shape and get-up may vary, the wording seldom does, and is usually as follows:

MR and MRS SMITH request the pleasure of Mr and MRS SALTER'S Company at the Marriage of their daughter, ELEANOR, and MR HORACE GREEN, At

St. Jude's, Kensington, On Saturday, April 21st, at 2 p.m., and afterwards at 3 Leicester Square.

THE REPLY.

The answer to this should be written thus:—"Mr and Mrs Salter have much pleasure in accepting Mr and Mrs Smith's kind invitation to the marriage of their daughter on Saturday, 21st April, and afterwards at 3 Leicester Square."

If it is impossible for them to be present at the reception, an answer to that effect should be given, thus:—"But regret very much that an engagement" (state what the engagement is) "will prevent their attending the reception."

WEDDING RECEPTION.

A Wedding Reception, or Wedding Tea, is much the same as a large "At Home," with, of course, the addition of the bridal group as the centre of interest.

Refreshments should be laid on long tables in a parlour or the dining-room. All refreshments but the tea and coffee should be cold, except at a winter wedding, when hot soup is often handed round.

"Cups" of various kinds are usually provided in addition to the tea and coffee. Establish take the form of all sorts of sandwiches, cakes, biscuits, ices, fruits. In hot weather iced coffee, and tea, and lemonade, lemon squashes, are often added.

For a wedding breakfast the fare should be of a more substantial order. Fish, fowl, and fowl, prepared in various appetising and elaborate ways; meringues, creams, tarts, jellies of all kinds, and dessert should make a goodly show on the table.

At this meal tea and coffee should not form a part. Wines, "cups"—champagne and claret—and other cool beverages must be provided.

A series of hot courses may be served instead of the cold. If liked, but the additional trouble of the hot breakfast gives is almost too much to be faced by ordinary mortals. Nor can guests, as a rule, face with equanimity a meal or four or more hot courses at noon. For the bride's sake the fashion of having hot breakfasts should not be encouraged.

AFTER THE TOASTS.

When the bride leaves the room to change her gown for her travelling costume her mother usually accompanies her; so does the chief bridesmaid, if she be a sister or a very near friend or relation.

Soon after the departure of the bride, guests take their leave, after saying good-bye to the hostess, and offering their congratulations on the way in which the wedding has gone off.

DRESS OF THE GUESTS.

On these occasions ladies may allow themselves a good deal of elaborateness in their gowns and hats. Both should be pretty, dainty, and dressy. Delicately tinted or white gloves should be worn, and in summer a fan and a pretty sunshade may be carried. Guests should not carry bouquets; but wedding favors, in the shape of buttonholes of real flowers, are often distributed.

Gentlemen wear frock coats, light trousers, top hats, and gloves, and buttonholes if they like so to do; the bridegroom, best man, and the ushers should wear buttonholes. The old custom of wearing wedding favors has fallen into disuse.

THE MARRIAGE OF A WIDOW.

If you are a widow and marrying again, no matter how young you may be, you must not wear white. The white wedding gown, the bridal veil and orange blossoms, are worn but once by any woman.

But you need not necessarily confine yourself to grey, or some delicate half-mourning tint for your wedding gown, though you should avoid anything very loud or striking in color, such as scarlet or brilliant yellow; but there is no reason why you should not wear, if you choose, pale pinks or blues, greens or violets. Of course it is always in better taste for a widow to make her wedding a quiet one, and to avoid any great show or ostentation.

A widow never has bridesmaids nor wears a bridal veil. In place of the bridesmaids you should have one of your greatest friends as lady-in-waiting, or attendant, to be near you to take your bouquet and gloves. This lady should arrive at the church first, and take a seat near the top, until you have taken your position by the bridegroom at the altar, when she should step quietly up to be near you.

It is the bridegroom's duty to give this lady a present, and her bouquet, if it is decided she shall carry one. He should also give you your bouquet, which should be of colored flowers, not of pure white ones.

Before going to the church you should remove your first wedding ring. Very few widows care to retain them and wear them both. It is done, but not often.

A widow's wedding is quieter altogether than a girl bride's. You have the wedding cake, and friends send wedding presents, of course; but there should be no elaborate floral decorations in the church and the home, no favors and no strewing of the path with flowers.

CARDS.

These are seldom sent now; but if you desire to send them it is best to find out from a good up-to-date stationer the latest fashion. The date of your return home should not be mentioned on the cards, nor in the announcement in the paper.

AT HOME.

When you have returned from the honeymoon

SKIN-TOR BABIES

And Tired, Fretted Mothers

Find Comfort in Cuticura Soap and Ointment

When All Other Remedies and Physicians Fail.

Instant relief and refreshing sleep for skin-tormented babies and rest for tired, worried mothers in warm baths with Cuticura Soap, and gentle anointings with Cuticura Ointment, purest of emollient skin cures, to be followed in severe cases by mild doses of Cuticura Resolvent. This is the purest, sweetest, most speedy, permanent and economical treatment for torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted and pimply skin and scalp humours, with loss of hair, of infants and children, as well as adults, and is sure to succeed when all other remedies and the best physicians fail.

The agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalled head; the facial disfigurement, as in acne and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants, and anxiety of worn-out parents, as in milk crust, tetter and salt rheum,—all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. That Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Resolvent are such stands proven beyond all doubt. No statement is made regarding them that is not justified by the strongest evidence. The purity and sweetness, the power to afford immediate relief, the certainty of speedy and permanent cure, the absolute safety and great economy have made them the standard skin cures and humour remedies of the civilized world.

Cuticura Resolvent, Liquid and in the form of Chocolate Contain Pills, Cuticura Ointment and Cuticura Soap are sold throughout the world. London, 27, Charterhouse Lane; Paris, 2, Rue de la Paix; Australia, 2, Towns & Co., Sydney; Boston, 117, Columbus Ave. Potter Drug & Chemical Corp., Sole Importers. See "Send for" How to Cure Skin Tortures, etc.

and have appeared at church, your friends, or those who, if you be settled in a strange place, are wishful of calling on you, should pay their calls within a few days. You should endeavor for a while to be at home in the afternoon that you may be ready to receive any callers who come.

It is a very general custom now for a bride to have, soon after the return, two or three "At Home" days in quick succession, to which are invited all those who have her presents, or were at the wedding. For this "At Home" cards are sent out, and all who receive them make a point of attending.

You must return all the calls made on you, and leave your card with your "At Home" day printed in small type in the right-hand corner.

Of course you must not accept invitations from persons who have not called on you, nor must you call first on anyone, nor give invitations to those who have not called on you.

LIVER COMPLAINT.

PROMPTLY CURED BY DR. MORSE'S INDIAN ROOT PILLS.

"Some time ago I suffered from Head-ache and Biliousness," says Mrs E. Chapman, 24 Princess street, Sydney, "which finally ended in Liver Complaint, so the doctors told me. I underwent treatment from various ones, but no relief could I find. My back got very bad, and finally I had to give up work. At the same time I was very badly affected with the various ailments that women are subject to. I really began to give up all hope, and felt that life was not worth living; but relief came when I was persuaded to take a course of Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills. From that hour I have never been without them. I can say without fear that they completely cured me, for I am now able to work without trouble, regular in habits, and I can confidently recommend them to all women similarly troubled, and I know there are hundreds. I am only too glad to be able to give this testimony. I may also state that my husband has derived great benefit from taking the Pills."—(Adv't.)

FREE **NO MONEY WANTED GIVEN AWAY**

A Beautiful Ladies' or Gentleman's Watch and Chain, Given Absolutely Free, to all who will assist us in introducing Orange Nectar Cordial, the most delicious and healthful of summer beverages. "One single 6d. package makes 20 Glasses." Simply send us your Name and Address on a post card, and we will send you 20 Packages of our Nectar Cordial to sell for us, if you can, at 1d. per packet. When sold, return our money, 10s., and we will send you the Ladies' or Gent's Watch and Chain. Any energetic person can sell the Cordial in an hour or so, and receive for this service one of the handsomest Free Prizes ever offered by any responsible House. Send at once before others get in the field ahead of you. Remember, we give both Watch and Chain—Ladies' or Gent's—for selling only 20 packages at 6d. each. Money required. We take all risks. Goods returnable if not sold. This is a proposition by a house of high commercial standing. Reference—Any Trades' Protection Society. HOME SPECIALTY CO., Dept. M, 352 George St., Sydney, N.S.W.

TRY IT IN YOUR BATH.

SCRUBB'S CLOUDY FLUID AMMONIA

MARVELLOUS PREPARATION.

Refreshing as a Turkish Bath. Invaluable for all Toilet Purposes. Splendid Cleansing Preparation for the Hair. Removes Stains and Grease Spots from Clothing, Etc. Allays the Irritation caused by Mosquito Bites. Invigorating in Hot Climates. Restores the Colour to Carpets. Cleans Plate and Jewellery. Softens Hard Water.

For Sale by all Grocers and Chemists.

SCRUBB & CO., LTD., LONDON, ENGLAND.

Sole Wholesale Agents for Victoria—**FELTON, GRIMWADE, & CO., MELBOURNE.**

THE TIMES. 33

HUGE REMNANT SALE

RICHARDS & CO'S,

THE BIG CASH DRAPERS,

BOURKE STREET.

1000 REMNANTS TO PICK AND CHOOSE FROM.

GREAT CLEARANCE OF ODDMENTS, ODD LINES and REMNANTS, at HALF COST PRICE.

TABLES OF RARE BARGAINS in DRESS GOODS, COSTUMES, BLOUSES, and HOUSEHOLD LINES

GENERALLY.

The Rush of Christmas trade has left an enormous quantity of ODD LINES and REMNANTS of all descriptions. These have been placed on Tables, and will be SOLD at about HALF what they cost, as they must be cleared at any sacrifice. This is a rare opportunity for thrifty Buyers to secure SPLENDID BARGAINS in SEASONABLE GOODS.

We have the Most Flourishing COUNTRY ORDER DEPARTMENT in the State.

Goods Forwarded to Any Town in Australia by Return Mail.

MANCHESTER DEPARTMENT.

GREAT SALE OF REMNANTS and ODDMENTS in THIS DEPARTMENT.

LARGE TABLES CROWDED with USEFUL LENGTHS of ALL KINDS of MANCHESTER GOODS, including Sheetings, Calicoes, Damasks, Flannels, Flannellettes, Sheetings, Gaiters, etc., every length, marked in plain figures, at HALF SPECIAL PRICES.

Special Value in Pure White Calicoes, heavy make, satin finish, 4 1/2 doz.: Crewdson's Calicoes, full yard wide, reduced to 5s 6d doz.

Oddments in White or Unbleached Table Damask, splendid quality, good patterns, useful length, 2 1/2 yds. each, for 2s 9d. Odd Lengths Strong Cotton Shirtings, 3 1/2 yds. in each, for 1s 9d.

Marvelous Value in Pillowcases, full fringe, large sizes, 5s 6d each. Odd lines in Honeycomb Towel Covers, fringed, 6s 6d. 7 1/2 doz. Special Clearance in Check Gaiters, Towelling, price for the sale, 3s 6d doz. Crash Roller Towelling, strong make, splendid value, 3s 6d doz.

Remnants in Grey and White Flannel, handy length, 2 1/2 yds. for 2s 9d. Oddments in White Calico, slightly soiled, 6 yds. for 1s 9d.

Special bargain in Heavy Brown Striped Molekin, extra strong make, well worth 1s 11d yd., all to go at 1s yd.

Lace Curtains—Special opportunity offered to secure a pair of Splendid Lace Curtains, slightly soiled sample curtains, at half price; Lace Curtains, from 1s 6d pair. Colored Damask Table Covers, pretty shades and patterns—54 x 54, 2s 6d each; 56 x 56, 2s 11d each.

SALVAGE from R.M.S. "AUSTRALIA."

A Large Quantity of GENERAL DRAPERY has been Recovered and is expected to arrive next week, when it will be immediately marked and OFFERED for SALE at our Bourke street warehouse. It is expected that this will be the last sale of drapery recovered from the "Australia," as the rest of the cargo consists of iron work, galvanizing iron, hardware, etc.

DRESS BARGAINS.

50 Dress Lengths of Beautiful Black Taffeta Voile, extra fine quality and wide with special line to-day, 5s 11d doz.

50 Dress Lengths of Extra Fine Quality British Cashmeres, navy, brown, moss, myrtle, carigan, black, full double width, 5s 11d doz.

50 pieces Double Width All Wool Nun's Veiling, cream, pink, and blue, cardinal, tuscany, black, good quality, extra cheap, 7s 6d doz.

REMNANTS and ODDMENTS.

ALL ON TABLES TO-DAY MARKED AT HALF COST PRICE.

Remnants of All Wool Spot Delaines, pink, sky, helio, reseda, and other good values, neat scroll effects, 1s 11d quality; priced for to-day's bargain, 11s 6d yd.

A HUGE TABLE FULL OF DRESS REMNANTS.

Thousands of Remnants of various Materials, all good useful lengths, suitable for children's wear, ladies' blouses or skirts, all placed on tables to-day and marked at prices that's sure to clear them in a day or two.

Oddments of Extra Pure Quality, in All Wool Nun's Veilings, full width, grey helio, navy, cream, black, peacock and tuscany, 1s 9d.

50 pieces 2 1/2 inch Fine Quality Japanese Silk in white or cream, guaranteed pure quality, 1s 3d quality; on sale to-day at 7s 6d yd.

DRESS REMNANT PARCELS, all carefully selected pieces, made up in parcels for country clients, guaranteed good values and useful lengths, for Blouses or Children's wear, 5s, 7s 6d, 10s, 15s, 20s parcel.

MUSLINS and PRINTS.

A big lot of Remnants and Oddments in Muslin, Prints, etc., have been marked down to particularly low prices, and will be thrown out on the tables To-morrow. Plenty of good Blouse Lengths and Children's Dress Lengths amongst these lots; also the following Special Lines:

A Magnificent Line White Fancy Muslin, nice assortment, in designs to choose from; this line was selling at 7s 6d; to clear, at 4s 6d doz.

Floral Blousing Muslin, in blue, reseda, pink flowers, light grounds, end of season price, 3s 11d doz.

Flaked Cotton Voiles, in all the leading shades and washings, this line is exceptional value, and worth 7s 6d yd. The price now to sell is 5s 6d yd.

50 in. Floral Art Muslin, bordered neat floral designs, in blue, pink, helio, suitable for window curtains, etc., marked low, 2s 11d doz.

50 in. Natural Crash, thoroughly shrunk, suitable for boys' suits and children's tunics, also costumes, heavy quality, 50 pieces to a parcel.

HOSIERY and GLOVE VALUES.

REMARKABLE VALUE in LADIES' FABRIC GLOVES.

35 doz. Ladies' Finest Milanese Lisle Thread Gloves, also Silk Taffeta, in grey, beavers, fawns, black and white, 4-button or Jersey silk cord points, all placed on a table to-day at 6d pair.

"Fownes's" Celebrated Kid Gloves, in fawns, tans and brown, silk braided backs, perfect fitting, 3-dome clasps, 1s 11d pair.

200 doz. Ladies' Finest Combed Maco Thread Hose, plain and ribbed, free from seams, all full fashioned, and finished through-out, high spliced heels, double soles, regular 5s 6d value all placed on a table to-day at 4s 6d pair.

Ladies' Finest Plain and Ribbed Pure Wool Black Cashmere Hose, high spliced heels, double soles, summer weight, value unsurpassed, 1s pair.

The "V.R."—Our Noted French Kid Gloves, in greys, beavers, tans, white, black and beaver, pique sewn, "chance" thumb, quilted fingers, all "chance" finish, perfect fitting, every pair guaranteed 1s 11d pair.

RIBBONS, LACES, COLLARETTES, SUNSHADES.

The Remainder of Our Season's Stock of Ladies' Sunshades, to clear, at less than cost price.

Stylish Colored Silk Striped Sunshades, with pretty fancy handles, needle frame, very smart, suit any costume, usual, 10s 6d; now all one price, 5s 11d each.

Special Odd Lot of Laces, including Edelweiss net laces, insertions, appliques and gimp laces, beautiful quality, value, 10s 6d; now all one price, 5s 11d each.

Hundreds of Yards of Lovely Plain Silk and Fancy Colored Ribbons, for millinery, trimming, etc., table all one price, 4s 6d yd.

100 doz. Ladies' Edelweiss Lace Collarettes, 9 and 10 in. deep, pretty floral patterns, ridiculous price, only 1s 11d each.

250 pieces of Navy, Cream and White Chiffon Veiling, beautiful fine quality, 6s 6d yd.

Special Line of Children's Frilled Colonial Sunshades, in pink, sky, white and bright blue, crook handles, usual price, 2s 6d; line to clear, 1s 3d each.

Exceptionally Cheap Line of Ladies' White Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, beautiful quality and finish, 11 1/2 inch half better quality, linen finish, 1s 3d, 1s 6d half doz.

MILLINERY DEPARTMENT.

Burnt Straw, mushroom droop, 1s.

Nice Line of Girls' Fancy Straw Flops, in cream and color, 6d.

Henley Hats, with large tam crowns and colored straw on edge and smart bow across front, 1s 11d.

Children's Panamas, mushroom droops, 1s.

The Balance of our Black Lace Hats, wide brim and high crown, well down on hair at back, we will clear at 6d each.

Children's White Mushrooms, in Jumbo straw, 6s 6d each.

Black Fancy Straw, assorted shapes, 1s.

Boys' Speckled Gaiety Hats, 1s, 1s 6d, 2s 11d.

A splendid line of Jack Tars, blue bind and band, 1s 6d.

A large variety of Muslin Henley Hats, on wire shapes, with soft pleated frills and tam crowns, also shaped frills, finished with smart bow, in white, and black and white, 4s 11d, 5s 11d, 6s 11d.

Long Trails of Pink Banksia Roses, with foliage, 1s, 1s 6d.

UNDERCLOTHING.

Ladies' Wrappers, in print, assorted dark patterns, fashionably made; special lines, at 3s 11d and 4s 11d.

Ladies' Nighties, in good calico, tucked and trimmed, muslin frills, at 2s 6d, 2s 11d; and nicely trimmed cambric embroidery tucks, etc., at 3s 11d and 4s 6d.

Ladies' Chemises, in calico, trimmed frilling, open fronts, at 1s, 1s 6d; and trimmed frilling and tucks, at 1s 6d, also trimmed lace or frills, etc., at 1s 9d, 1s 11d, and 2s 6d.

Ladies' Knickers, in calico, well made and trimmed fine muslin frills, shaped waist band, special value at 1s 3d; and trimmed embroidery, at 1s 6d and 1s 11d.

Ladies' Calico Combinations, trimmed fine namock frills and good braids, a good shape, at 2s 6d; and tucked and trimmed insertion, at 2s 11d.

The New Ribbon Corset, in sky, pink, or white, also in striped blue, 19 in. to 25 in., 2s 6d.

The Celebrated C.B. Corset, in grey, long-waisted, 19 to 20 in., special value, at 3s 11d, 4s 6d; and guaranteed whalebone, at 5s 11d.

P.D. Corset, in fawn, with extended hip, straight front, 3s 11d; and in grey, at 5s 11d.

MANTLE DEPARTMENT.

Another line of Crash Costumes, in natural color, Russian coat, piped with white, well made, with three deep folds, piped with white at foot, 8s 11d.

For the present wear, there is nothing to equal our White Lawn Costume, at 12s 6d. Blouse trimmed with wide tucks and embroidery insertion, pouch front, fastened down back, full sleeve and band of insertion at wrist, three deep folds at foot of skirt; also in white linen, at 10s 6d; pretty and smart.

A Nice Cambric Blouse, shirt style, fasten front, bishop sleeves, with band, collar and cuffs, spotted and floral patterns, splendid value, 1s 3d.

Blouses in Nun's Veiling and Delaine, all shades, gathered fronts, trimmed with twine lace, transparent yoke, square neck, deep cuff of insertion, a very pretty blouse, at 6s 11d.

A Splendid Blouse in Cream Nun's Veiling, trimmed with wide tucks, full pouch front, buttoned down back, pointed cuffs, for 3s 11d.

Crash Skirt, in natural color, inverted pleats at foot, 3s 11d and 4s 11d; also in white pique length, 3s 11d to 3s 11d, 2s 11d.

Black Skirts in Cashmere, Volles and Canopy Volls, all styles, smartly trimmed with ribbon and gathered at waist, with frill at foot, a dressy skirt at 17s 6d.

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Some Odd Lots of Men's Clothing left after the Christmas trade, will be cleared this week at a Tremendous Sacrifice. Read about them, and post order at once.

50 Men's Suits, of dark serviceable tweed, clearing out at 16s 11d; this suit we sold at 22s.

Another Bargain Suit is 30 Pawn Sergeantes, in sizes 3, 4, and 5, offering at 14s 11d the suit.

Blue Ballarat Serge Suits, pure Indigo dye, something exceptional in value, at 22s, sizes 3 to 7.

Boys' Strong Holiday Knockabout Knickers, 1s 6d pair. Boys' Velvet Cord Knickers, all sizes this week, 2s 11d pair.

Men's Tweed Trousers, a very strong pair, offering at 4s 6d.

MERCERY DEPARTMENT.

The Underpant Bargain we are showing at 1s 11d is simply beyond compare; they are worth 2s 6d.

Brown Cotton Underpants, heavy ribbed, 1s, 1s 6d and 1s 11d pair.

40 doz. Men's Wool Flannel Under-shirts, slightly soiled; will be cleared this week at 1s 11d; they were 2s 6d and 2s 11d each.

The Shirt Bargain of the Season is our Soft Front Shirt with stiff cuffs, pretty stripe patterns, comfortable shirt for hot weather; usual price, 4s 6d; send early, we are offering sizes 14 to 17 at 2s 11d each.

Boys' Straw Speck or White Boaters, one value, only 1s each.

We have the Cheapest Soft Felt Hat ever seen in Melbourne, in the newest shade of brown, very stylish shape, all sizes to 7 1/2, only 3s 11d. This is a chance you may never get again.

TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

Special Value in 42s. to order, from a New Shipment of Stylish Tweeds, cut and fitted by the most expert artists; the biggest bargain in suits to order ever advertised.

50s Suits, to order, off New Striped Tweeds; the noblest suit in the State, made of A1 quality tweed, and cut and fitted to perfection.

Worsted Pants, to order, from 12s 6d, 500 patterns to choose from, in all the newest styles. We build a pair of the most stylish pants in the State for 12s 6d, 15s, or 18s 6d.

BOOT DEPARTMENT.

Bargains in Ladies' Tan Shoes, odd sizes, marked off at half price to clear.

Reduced prices in Children's Sandals (in tan or red), 3s to 5s, 3s 11d; 7s to 9s, 4s 11d; 10s to 13s, 5s 6d; 1s and 2s, 6s 6d.

Our Famous Gipsy Shoes, for children, in tan or black, 7s to 9s, 3s 3d; 10s to 13s, 3s 11d; 1s and 2s, 4s 6d.

Ladies' Tan Lace Shoes, 5s 6d, 4s 11d, 6s 11d; worth double.

Special Value in 1-Bar Nurse's Shoes, leather lined, full round toes, with half heels, rubbered, a real good line, in sizes 2s to 7s, all at 4s 11d.

Tan 1-Bar or Glace Kid, with patent vamps, semi-wurt heels, very neat, marked on at 6s 11d.

IN GENT'S BOOTS.

We offer the Best Value to be had anywhere.

Calif. Gol. Bais, 5s 11d, 7s 11d, 8s 6d, in American box calf, or crupp (our stock line), in three shapes, at 10s 6d, in wolsted or sewn soles, tan or black, crumple glaze, a knock out line at 12s 6d.

Stout Kip Makers, for harvest wear, whole fronted bluchers, nailed or sprung, at 4s 11d; solid leather water tight, nailed or sprung, 5s 11d, toe and heel plates, 6s 6d.

Thomson's Famous Rough Sprigged Water-tight Lace Boots, for bush wear, in any size, at 13s 3d pair.

RICHARDS AND CO'S BARGAIN PARCEL LIST

THE PARKER BARGAIN PARCEL

Contains 1 pair of imported large White Single Bed Blankets, 1 pair White Twilled Sheets, all ready hemmed; 1 White Honeycomb Quilt, heavily fringed; 1 White Pillow, large; 1 large Tick Pillow; 2 Turkish Bed-room Towels; 1 Toilet Set. Worth double the price; 20s, carriage paid.

THE JESSICA BARGAIN PARCEL

Contains 1 Ladies' extra good quality Longcloth Nightdress, trimmed well with lace; 1 Ladies' White Longcloth Chemise, trimmed with good work; 1 pair extra quality Longcloth Knickers, shaped bands and trimmed lace or embroidery; 1 Ladies' White Longcloth Undershirt, dressy, trimmed nicely with lace and insertion; 2 pair Ladies' Summer Weight Cambric Hose; 2 Ladies' Summer Weight Cotton Singlets. Only 20s, carriage paid.

THE ASTLEY BARGAIN PARCEL

Contains 5 yds of Fancy Floral or Spotted Cotton Delaine, with black, red, reseda, or navy spot, also heat designs in floral effects; 1 Dress of fine English Twill Serge, 5 yards of White Twill Sheet; 5 yards White Calico; 1 dozen Floral Cretonne; 5 yards Cotton Shirting; 1 Floral Starch Cushion, frilled. 20s; carriage paid.

THE HUDSON BARGAIN PARCEL

Contains 1 Dress Length of Double-width Panama Cloth, in pretty shades of fawn, blue, etc.; 1 Dress Length of 44-in. Plain Black Sicilian Lustre; 1 Dress Length of Bradford Serge; 1 Dress Length of Grey Taffeta Voile. 20s; carriage paid.

THE "STELLA" BARGAIN PARCEL

Contains 1 Ladies' Serviceable Black Alpaca Skirt, well made and lined, fasten at side, plain or pleated back; 1 Henly Hat, with straw bow in front; 1 pretty White Muslin or Cambric Blouse, fasten back, full sleeve, and pouch front; 1 Handmade Emb. Net Collarette; 1 pair Ladies' Kid Gloves in all shades of tan, brown, etc.; 1 dozen Ladies' Hemstitched Cambric Handkerchiefs; 1 strong frame Levantine Umbrella, crook or fancy handles. 20s; carriage paid.

THE PERCIVAL

Contains 1 Gent's Summer Weight Tweed Suit, well cut and finished; 2 pair Gent's Cotton Half-Hose; 1 Gaiety or Cotton Working Shirt; 1 pair of extra springy Elastic Braces. 20s; carriage paid.

Any goods not approved of cheerfully exchanged.

Postal Notes or Money Orders must accompany each order.

RICHARDS and CO., 238-244 BOURKE ST.

RICHARDS AND CO.

238 to 244 BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE.

Family Events.

Some of the following announcements are taken from the daily papers:

BIRTHS.

BARNARD.—On the 16th December, at Rockhampton, the wife of Charles A. Barnard, Commo-bolaroo, Duaringa, Central Queensland—a son.

COOK.—On the 15th December, 1904, at "Emu-rail," Motherwell street, Hawthorn, the wife of Percy P. Cook—a daughter.

DOVE.—On the 4th January, at William street, North Brighton, the wife of Thomas Dove (of Victorian Railways)—a daughter. Both doing well.

HOWARD.—On the 1st January, at 22 Queen's Parade, North Fitzroy, the wife of J. Howard, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia—a daughter.

HOWSE.—On the 4th January, at "Kylah," Plenty road, South Preston, the wife of John Howse, jun.—a son.

KERR.—On the 14th December, the wife of Thomas Kerr, 38 Burwood road, Hawthorn—a daughter.

M'GILL.—On the 6th January, at Rouse street, Port Melbourne, the wife of A. M'Gill—a daughter.

HOOPER & CO'S

GREAT

STOCKTAKING SALE

OPENS SATURDAY NEXT

On Such a Scale and in Such A Way as it never did before.

LARGE 8-PAGE CIRCULARS, Fully Illustrated, are Now Ready, and will be posted immediately on application. Our 15,000 Out-of-Town Customers who received our Winter Catalogue will be sent a copy, and need not write for one.

41-57 BARKLY STREET, FOOTSCRAY.

WHOA! JANUARY. THIS IS 1905!

AND ON SATURDAY NEXT, THE SORT OF DRAPERY and CLOTHING

CLEARING SALE

THAT WILL CAUSE A BIG SENSATION STARTS AT

BROWN & SCOTT'S,

THE LEADING DRAPERS, CLOTHIERS, &c., OF Brunswick Street, Fitzroy,

AND WILL GO MERRILY ON FOR 30 DAYS. THE PLAIN FACTS ARE THESE. ANTICIPATING THE ENORMOUS RISE IN COTTON GOODS, WE BOUGHT TOO HEAVILY IN EVERYTHING COTTON. NOW WE WANT THE CASH, NOT THE GOODS. THE WHOLE OF OUR ENORMOUS AND KEENLY BOUGHT STOCKS ARE OFFERED. HERE ARE A FEW PLUMS HANGING ON THE BARGAIN TREE:

- Plum No. 1.—Cool Muslin Blousing, 7 1/2 yd. for goods that were 4s 6d, 5s 6d, and 7d yd.
- Plum No. 2.—Lovely Delainettes, 3s 11d doz., that were 6s 6d yd.
- Plum No. 3.—Chairs, for 3s 11d doz., that were 1s to 3d per yard.
- Plum No. 4.—Jap. Silks, all colors, 1s per yard, now 9s 6d per yard.
- Plum No. 5.—Splendid Pure Wool Black Cashmere, 2s 6d per yard, worth 3s 6d.
- Plum No. 6.—Venetian Serges, all colors, to go at 4s 6d per yard.
- Plum No. 7.—Ladies' Best Lisle Lace Hose, Black and Tan, 1s 3d goods at 1s pair.
- Plum No. 8.—Children's 7/8d Hose for 3/4d pair, or 4 pairs for 1s. Young sizes.
- Plum No. 9.—Muslin Blouses, French floral patterns, 1s 11d.
- Plum No. 10.—Splendid Crash Coats, 3s 6d; Skirts, 2s 11d; holiday wear.
- Plum No. 11.—10 1/2d for Frilled Knickerbockers and Chemises.
- Plum No. 12.—Strong Coutille Corsets, good mould, 1s 9d per pair. Cheap at 2s 11d.
- Plum No. 13.—Table of Sample Corsets, P.D.'s, C.B.'s, and other makes. See these.
- Plum No. 14.—A Lady's Trimmed Hat for 1s. How is it done?
- Plum No. 15.—Wonderful Line Jack Tar Hats, for boys, at 1s 6d.
- Plum No. 16.—Art Millinery at Half-price.
- Plum No. 17.—Heavy Strong Damask Tableing, 8s 6d yd.; cheaper than its home price in Ireland.
- Plum No. 18.—Linen Serviettes, manufacturer's samples, from 1s 6d to 3d each.
- Plum No. 19.—Turkish Roller Towels, 1 yds long, ready for use, 1s.
- Plum No. 20.—7 1/2d, 10 1/2d, 1s yd for Strong White Sheeting for double beds. Big stock of better goods cheap.
- Plum No. 21.—Lace Curtains, begin at 1s per pair.
- Plum No. 22.—Babies' Outfits, very cheap.
- Plum No. 23.—Umbrellas, with metal ribs, needle pts., strong durable Italian cover, 2s 6d; crooks, 2s 11d.
- Plum No. 24.—Wonderful Collarettes, in embroidered Edelweiss, at 1s 11d, cheap at 2s 11d.
- Plum No. 25.—Gent's Tweed Business Suits, coat with two sleeves, pants with 2 legs, vest given in, 1s 11d.
- Plum No. 26.—Wonderful Bargains in Boys' and Youths' Tennis Coats, an irresistible plum for mothers of boys, 1s.
- Plum No. 27.—Boys' Straw Hats, 6d. Thrown out, no matter the cost.
- Plum No. 28.—Sailor Blouses, 1s 6d, 1s 11d; Tweed Pants, 1s 3d per pair, lined throughout.
- Plum No. 29.—Undressed Shirts. None can beat B. and S. for these. Grand line for 1s 9d.
- Plum No. 30.—Boys' and Men's Felt Hats, turned out to clear at 1s each.
- Plum No. 31.—Boys' Embroidered Collars, thrown out, 4s 6d. We hold a lovely assortment of high-grade goods.
- Plum No. 32.—Boys' Flannellette and Harward Shirts, for 1s each.

THESE ARE BRIEF.

We usually live by the profits, but for the next few weeks "we won't think of the profits." The quotation may seem ridiculous, absurd, marvellous, impossible, but it is true. Come or send to our great exchange and trade with us.

SEND FOR BARGAIN CATALOGUE. WE PAY RAIL ON PARCELS 12 AND OVER.

STUDY THIS—"WA WELL WHAT WE SA."

For W. LEEMING'S

PRICE LIST OF BOOTS,

See "WEEKLY TIMES" of Next Week.

COLLONADE BOOT BAZAARS

1 ERROL ST., NORTH MELBOURNE, AND 303 CHAPEL ST., PRAHRAN.

And at 108 SWANSTON STREET CITY (Opp. Town Hall.)

MARRIAGES.

BRIDGFORD-HAIG.—On the 8th December, 1904, at the West Hawthorn Presbyterian Church, by the bride's cousin (the Rev. W. H. Cooper), Edgar Charles Jescombe, fifth son of Charles Bridgford, Essendon, to Helen, youngest daughter of the late John Haig, Kensington.

CLARK-BURTON.—On the 5th December, by special license, at the West street Methodist Church, Natal, South Africa, by the Rev. John J. Davies, Thomas J. Clark, only son of the late John Clark, of Frankston, and Mrs. J. D. Box, of Hawthorn, to Mable Annie (Annie), third daughter of Edward Burton, of Malvern road, South Yarra.

HOUSLOW-HINES.—On the 13th December, 1904, at Christ Church, Beechworth, by the Rev. R. H. Potter, Arthur Thomas, youngest son of Joseph Houslow, Preston, to Rebecca Emma, eldest daughter of John Hines, Beechworth.

PAUL-LOW.—On the 13th December, 1904, at the Baptist Tabernacle, Auckland, New Zealand, by the Rev. Joseph Clark, Adolph, youngest son of the late George and Louisa Paul, of Scarsdale, Victoria, to Isabella Moir, youngest daughter of William and Elizabeth Low, of South Melbourne.

STEELE-STEVENS.—On the 3rd December, at Scots' Church, Collins street, by the Rev. Alexander Marshall, D.D., William Frederick George, only son of William Steele, The Avenue, Royal Park, to Emmeline Frances, only daughter of Horace Stevens, M'Cully street, Ascot Vale.

WOODWARD-CRELLIN.—On the 3rd December, 1904, at St. Peter's Church, Dunedin, New Zealand, Arthur, youngest son of the late John Woodward, Woodend, Victoria, to Ina Mona, youngest daughter of William Crellin, surveyor, corner of Johnston and Hoddie streets, Abbotsford, Victoria.

DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG.—On the 8th January, at "Er-melo," Newtown, Sydney, James F. C., the beloved husband of Dorothy Armstrong, and third son of late Thomas Armstrong, of Noong Station, Moulmein, and Mrs. Armstrong, of "Woodlee," Kyneton.

BROCK.—On the 4th January, at her residence, Templeton street, Castlemaine, Alice Maud, dearly beloved wife of Robert Brock, aged 39 years.

CAMPBELL.—On the 30th December, at Willembra, Catherine Campbell, relict of the late John Campbell, of Banyena, formerly of Skye, Scotland, a colonist of 50 years, aged 70 years.

DYE.—On the 5th January, at "Chewton," Wellington street, St. Kilda, Emilie, beloved wife of Frederic Dye, aged 56 years.

HALLENSTEIN.—On the 6th January, at his residence, Dunedin, New Zealand, Bendis Hallenstein, in his 71st year.

JOHNSTON.—On the 7th January, 1905, suddenly, at Sydney, of heart failure, Thomas Kidd Johnston.

PAVEY.—On the 28th December, 1904, at his residence, Merrigum, Sydney Pavey, aged 52.

PYM.—On the 8th January, Montagu C. L. Pym, aged 54 years.

STABEN.—On the 4th January, at "Dorfstedt," Poowong, Gippsland, Doris, relict of the late Henning Staben, aged 63 years.

SMITH.—On the 6th January, 1905, at "Llewellyn," Henna street, Warrnambool, Thomas, the beloved husband of Betsy Smith, aged 75 years.

TODD.—On the 7th January, at his late residence, "Allimatta," Greensborough, William Todd, aged 72 years.

TURNHAM.—On the 6th January, at his residence, 125 De Carlo street, Brunswick, William Henry, dearly beloved husband of Lydia Mary Turnham, in his 64 year.

Young Folks.

By "AUNT CONNIE."

AN OLD-TIME DOLLIE.

Carolyn S. Bailey.

She was fast asleep in the cedar chest
When I found her there to-day,
Where my grandmother's mother's mother,
Had laid her dollie away.

They had made her of wood, too hard to hug,
And she had no hair at all;
And she wore a queer little calico gown
And her eyes were black and small.

Her kerchief was yellow with all the years,
Her hands were folded, too,
She never once smiled when I took her up,
This dollie of long ago.

Oh, quiet little girl of the olden time,
Come down from the years to me,
I am holding your dollie fast in my arms—
I love her as you did, see!

GIANT BLUEBOTTLE

"For shame, Dick, for shame! What a cruel boy you are! You make fuss enough about a little pain yourself, but you don't care how you hurt anything else. Suppose you were in that poor creature's place, how would you like to be treated in that manner?"

It was Dick's mother who said this. Dick had caught a bluebottle; he had cruelly torn off one of its wings, and now he was amusing himself as it tumbled and buzzed about the table in its efforts to fly away.

Dick did not pay much attention to what his mother said. She often spoke to him like that, but it took very little effect for Dick was such a cruel boy. He would tear the wings off a bluebottle, or stick a pin through a beetle, or put a fly into a spider's web, or pelt a poor cat with stones, or rob a bird of its nest, without the slightest thought about the pain he was giving. Oh, Dick was a cruel, cruel boy!

But he knew his mother would not let him go on with his cruel tricks in her presence, so he took up the bluebottle to go into the yard with it. Now, instead of looking where he was going, Dick was looking at the bluebottle, and the consequence was that in passing through the door, he stumbled over the step, and tripped the poor thing from his finger. He looked about for it for some time, but could not find it, so he came indoors again; and not very long afterwards, went to bed. Sometimes in the middle of the night he awoke from his sleep, and heard a buzzing sound on the bed, close to him. It was the poor maimed bluebottle. It had not fallen to the ground when it dropped from Dick's finger, but had clung to his clothes; and so without knowing it, he had carried it to the bedroom with him. From the chair where he hung his clothes it had crawled to the bed, and was tumbling and buzzing about, just as it had done on the table when he was so much amused by it.

Dick soon guessed what it was; and as he thought of his cruelty it strange feeling of fear came over him. His mother's words came to his mind. "How would you like to be treated as you treat that poor creature?" and he covered his head with his bed-clothes, as though he thought the bluebottle had come to torment him for his cruelty.

Buzz-buzz, buzz-buzz-buzz! How it worried him! How he wished it would leave off, but it would not. Buzz-buzz-buzz; there it was again, buzzing and crawling all over him, until he got so frightened that he could not go to sleep at all.

"What a simpleton I am, he thought, to be frightened by a blue-bottle!" but he could not shake off his fear in this way. As long as the buzzing went on he crouched beneath the bedclothes and dared not even move. However, it left off at last, and he gradually fell asleep. Buzz-buzz-buzz! Buzz-buzz-buzz-buzz. There it was again, louder than ever. Dick's heart beat as though he had a pair of drum sticks inside him; the bedclothes were snatched from his head; and lo! a great ugly monster rose before him.

Now, this monster was like a bluebottle in shape, and had one of its wings torn off; yet such a giant was it that it seemed to have thrust a part of its body through the roof, and to be looking down upon Dick from somewhere among the chimney pots. Dick made a dive beneath the bedclothes again; but the giant pounced upon him with a hideous laugh, which so terrified him that he fainted right off at once.

When he came to again it was broad daylight, and he found himself in the open air with three of these monsters looking down upon him. No sooner did he move than the one with the broken wing seized upon him and began pulling about so roughly that he cried aloud with pain.

"Oh! there's a funny noise he makes," cried one of the others. "Did you hear him, Buzzy? Pull his leg again; here, let me."

And with that they all set upon him and began to pinch him and poke him and pull him about in such a manner that he expected nothing less than to be crushed to death like a moth or torn limb from limb. He screamed and he screamed; but the monsters laughed and he was hurt.

screamed the more they were amused. Then his mother's words came to his mind. "How would you like to be served as you serve the poor creatures?" and gave himself up as lost, and wished he were dead. But his troubles were just commencing.

Suddenly that one-winged monster cried, "Look here, let's stick a pin through him and see how he'll kick!" "Ha! that'll be the sort of fun!" cried the others, and away went the monster for a pin. When he returned with it Dick was more terrified than ever, for the "pin" was a great brass spike three or four times the size of his body and about the thickness of his arm.

"Now, then," said the giant, "let's pin him to this rail," and Dick was snatched up screaming and kicking and was laid along it. The monster lifted the "pin" above him; Dick shut his eyes and shuddered, but the giant, instead of sticking him, said, "Wait a minute! Don't let's pin him at all; let's put him in the tiger's hole and see if he'll fight!"

"Oh! capital! capital!" shouted the others. And Dick was caught up again and carried off with such a buzzing as almost deafened him; and with such a shaking and tumbling, and by the time they reached the tiger's den he was gasping for breath.

But there was the tiger, fierce and hungry; and when Dick caught sight of him he began to kick and scream worse than ever. But he had often amused himself by putting a fly into a spider's web; why should not these giant bluebottles amuse themselves by putting a boy into a tiger's den? It was of no use to kick, it was of no use to scream, the monsters were eager for fun.

In another minute it would have been all over with poor Dick, but just in the nick of time another of these monsters, bigger than all the rest, came up and said: "What are you doing here, children? What have you got?"

"Oh, mother," they cried, "we've got such a funny little thing! Buzzy found it in its little nest."

"Let me see it," said the mother. "Why, what have you been doing to the poor thing? It's almost dead!"

"We haven't been hurting it, mother," they said; "we are going to see if it'll fight the tiger."

"Indeed, you are not," replied the mother; "how can you be so cruel?" And with that she took him gently in the long grass.

"There," she said, "let it crawl away where it likes. Suppose you were in that poor thing's place, how would you like to be tormented in that way?"

And with these words singing in his ears Dick was left alone. Oh, what a relief it was to be hidden away there in the long grass—so long that he was only like some little grasshopper in it! Poor fellow! he was thoroughly exhausted and was just sinking off into a kind of swoon when something tickled his ear. He started, opened his eyes, and lo! everything was changed. He was in his own bedroom again, and there was the poor maimed bluebottle buzzing about on his pillow.

He shrank from it in terror. Although he saw now that he had only been dreaming, he was so unnerved that he hardly dared look around. But the darkness was gone, and he soon got the better of his fear.

"It was all through this poor blue-bottle," he thought. "I wish I hadn't hurt it!" It's right, what I said, that I should not have treated the poor creature so cruelly. I'll take it out in the garden and let it crawl away where it likes. I wish I hadn't hurt it. I don't think it's fun now."

After taking the blue-bottle out into the garden he crawled into bed again and said: "As long as I live I shall never hurt anything again," and Dick kept his word.

UNCLE PHIL'S STORY.

"Tell us a story, Uncle Phil," said Rob and Archie, running to him. "What about?" said Uncle Phil, as Rob climbed on his right knee and Archie on his left.

"Oh, about something that happened to you," said Rob. "Something when you were a little boy," said Archie.

"Once when I was a little boy," said Uncle Phil, "I asked my mother to let Roy and myself go out and play by the river."

"Was Roy your brother?" asked Rob.

"No; but he was very fond of playing with me. My mother said 'Yes'; so we went and had a great deal of sport. After a while I took a shingle for a boat and sailed it along the bank. At last it began to get into deep water, where I couldn't reach it with a stick. Then I told Roy to go and bring it to me. He almost always did what I told him, but this time he did not. I began scolding him, and he ran toward home.

"Then I was very angry. I picked up a stone and threw it at him as hard as I could."

"Oh, Uncle Phil!" cried Archie. "Just then Roy turned his head, and it struck him right over his eye."

"Oh, Uncle Phil!" cried Rob. "Yes, it made him stagger. He gave a little cry, and lay down on the ground. But I was still angry with him. I did not go to him, but waded into the water for my boat. But it was deeper than I thought.

Before I knew it I was in a strong current. I screamed as it carried me down the stream; but no men were near to help me.

"But, as I went down under the deep waters, something took hold of me and dragged me towards shore. And when I was safe on the bank I saw it was Roy. He had saved my life."

"Good fellow! Was he your cousin?" asked Rob.

"No," replied Uncle Phil. "What did you say to him?" asked Archie.

"I put my arms around the dear fellow's neck and cried, and asked him to forgive me."

"What did he say?" asked Rob.

"He said, 'Bow, bow, bow!'"

"Why, who was Roy?" asked Archie, in great astonishment.

"He was my dog," said Uncle Phil. "The best dog I ever saw. I have never been unkind to a dog or to any other animal since, and I hope you will never be."

OUR MONTHLY PRIZE COMPETITION.

Four prizes of 2s 6d each are offered for the best letters published during the month of January.

Class 1.—For children over twelve and not over eighteen—two prizes for the most interesting letters of the month.

Class 2.—For children under twelve—two prizes for the best letters of the month.

Competitors must state their age, together with name and address, and must write on one side of the paper only.

In judging—handwriting, composition, and neatness will be taken into account. No manuscript will be returned. No prize-winner to compete again for three months after being awarded a prize.

All letters to be addressed to Aunt Connie, "Weekly Times" Office, Melbourne.

A CHILD'S COMPLIMENT.

By EMILY LITTS RUSSELL.

A young artist had tried her skill
In painting a watermelon,
Which was placed in the dining-room;
Among the guests was little Helen.

And when the dessert was finished,
Asked the hostess, near whom she sat,
"Will you have something else, my dear?"
She said, "Please give me some of that."

Pointing to her innocent way,
To the easel near the table,
A better compliment to pay,
None of the big folks was able.



CHRISTMAS ENJOYMENTS.

"Summerton," Ardno, 2nd January, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie,—It seems a long time ago since I wrote to you, but I was waiting for the Christmas joys to come off, so that I could write and tell you about them. Christmas has been a very happy time, and we are starting a new year now. Christmas passed off very quietly about here. We all went to church on Christmas day, but there were not many there, as a number of people have gone away for their holidays. Will and Walter went into the mountain to see the Caledonian sports. I intended going, too, but the day was not very promising. We had plenty of enjoyment at the beginning of the month. First of all we had the State school picnic, which proved a great success. There were a number of people there, and the day was everything that could be desired. We all went but father. There were all kinds of races for the children, and plenty of games for the young people, including tennis. I played several games of tennis, and I think it is a very enjoyable game. We returned home at seven o'clock, quite satisfied with our day's enjoyment. Then came our tea-meeting and concert. The church was prettily decorated with bamboo, oak, and ivy. There was a skillful put up outside the church for the food, and as it was a hot day it was very useful. In the evening the gramophone selections were very amusing, and caused much laughter. We have been without rain for a long time in this part, and a good fall would be very welcome. This will be a bad year for bush-fires, as the grass is so long and dry. We will have a lot of fruit this year, but the parrots are very destructive on the apples. I am going to tell you about a swarm of bees coming out of town he noticed a swarm of bees settled on the road, opposite our place. They had settled on the ground, so it was not very hard to put a box over them. We left them there till evening, but as they did not go into the box we had to leave them there till morning. Agnes and I got up early, and went for them. We lifted them carefully on to the sheet, and brought them home, and all a happy New Year, I remain, your loving niece,—SOPHIE MOLES; age 15 years 4 months.

Dergholm, Jan. 4th, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie,—It is a long time since I wrote to you. The weather has been very hot lately. My father is busy carting in hay. The sports were postponed till next year's day. My eldest brother came second in one race, and my youngest brother came second in one, too. I have two sisters and three brothers. We have a foal called Beauty. We have four cows and four calves. We have a mulberry tree, and it is well loaded. All our cherries are finished now. We have not much fruit this year. We are having our holidays now. I am in the third class, and my brother is in the sixth. I am sending five shillings for the children in the O.C. My brother and another man are stripping bark out at the farm. I was glad to see another letter from John Johnson. Hilda and Louie have been writing to me. I will conclude, wishing you all a very happy year.

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New Year, I am, your affectionate niece,—Ethel Howlett, P.S.—Please may I write again, Aunt Connie? Yes, Ethel; I shall be glad to have another letter from you.—Aunt Connie.

Likes the children's page. Timbony, December 21st, 1904.—Dear Aunt Connie.—We live about half a mile from Curdie's River. There are not many fish in the river. We have two milking cows, and 18 sheep. It is very hot down here. I think if there is no rain soon the grass and plants will wither up. I am eleven years old. My birthday is on the 18th of May. My father gets the "Weekly Times," and I like very much reading the "Children's Page." My father is contracting. He bought a new horse, and he had one before, and they are both good horses. My uncle is quarrying, and my father and brother are carting. They are working about five miles from Torang. We are having a concert here to-night, and two of my sisters are singing. I remain, your would-be nephew,—FRED PETERSCHEIL.

KIND HOSPITAL TREATMENT. Lyntonville, Dec. 25th, 1904.—Dear Aunt Connie.—I am in the third class at school. We are to have a new schoolmaster in the new year. Our mother has been for eight weeks under treatment in the Dayford Hospital, and is still an out-patient. She would have been quite happy there, only for the worry of having to leave us children. My second eldest sister, who is twelve years old, acted as mother and housekeeper while mother was away, as my eldest sister is living in Chesham. The weather here is keeping very dry. All the farmers are crying out for rain. On the twenty-seventh mother took us all to the Dayford Gardens, and we enjoyed ourselves very much. I am sending a few cards for the sick children in the hospital. Wishing all my cousins, Aunt Connie, and Uncle Ben a very happy New Year, I remain, your loving niece, VALERIE ULVERSTON WOODHOUSE, age 10 years 4 months.

A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL. South Heathcote, 2nd January, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie.—Since I last wrote to you I have had a Sunday school opened in Toobrac. It is two miles from Agnes's house. We have had terribly hot weather lately, but it is much cooler to-day, and I think it will rain soon. I hope it does, as there have been some terrible bush fires about here last week. My mother and my sister Ruby, and my brother Fred, have come up from Melbourne to stay at my grandpa's for a fortnight. I was very pleased to see them. My brother Fred went with some friends fishing and shooting for five days, they did not bring home any fish as it was too hot. I am in the fifth class at school. Rabbits are very numerous about here now, and it will soon be time to lay poison. Grandma went into the hen house about a week ago, and there was a large snake in the nest eating the eggs. In September Mr. Summons examined the children of the State School No. 622. The Toobrac North and Warrawitke Schools combined had a picnic on the 21st November, 1904. It was held up in Wawa's Reserve. We all enjoyed ourselves very much. We had three swings. We had tea about six o'clock. Then we had some games, and reached home at a quarter to nine. With love to Cousins Connie and Florrie, and Uncle Ben, but forgetting yourself, I remain, your loving niece, KATIE L. WEST.

RAIN BADLY WANTED. Hodgeville Farm, Officer, Jan. 2, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie.—I am very pleased to see my letter in print in "The Weekly Times." We have finished cutting our crop, and the haystacks are built too. Officer is a very small district. We live close to the railway station, and it is very nice to see the trains passing by. We have got a lot of fowls, and we got a good few eggs from them, and send them to Melbourne. We are having hot weather up this way at present. Rain is badly wanted, as the place is very dry, and water is getting scarce. There was a picnic held here on Boxing Day. There were a number of people here, but some went to the beach, and some to the sports. Wishing you, Uncle Ben, and all my cousins, a Happy New Year, I remain, your affectionate niece, VIOLET RUX.

AN ENJOYABLE TIME. Newport, 26/12/04.—Dear Aunt Connie.—This is the first time I have written to you, and I hope you will accept me as one of your little correspondents. I am glad to hear you are here, as it has been very hot in school lately. My father took my brother and me to the fireworks last night, and we enjoyed the sight very much. They showed the "Magna Falls," the "Bueno-Japanese" and many other wonderful things. My father and mother are going to the Gippsland Lakes, and we are going to stay at home with our grandmother. I am in the fifth class at the North Williamstown State school. We have a Christmas tree, which had balls, flags, candles, etc., on it. I remain, your affectionate niece, VERA A. STROONG, age 10 years 3 months.

PICNIC AND CIRCUS. Rosalie, Launceston, Dec. 25th, 1904.—Dear Aunt Connie.—This is the second time I have written to you. We have four weeks' holidays. On Friday evening, 23rd December, when we broke up, the head teacher, Mr. Phillips, gave us very little in the school a card, and some lollies. Most of the holidays are finished about here. There was a lot of hay cut this year. I went to the Rocky Lead picnic on Boxing Day, and I enjoyed myself very much. There was a picnic, and the same night, and I went to also. It was given by the West Brothers, and it was well attended. The stories in the "Young Folks" page in the Christmas number of "The Times" were very interesting. We have been having very sultry and unsettled weather lately, one day hot, and the next day cold. The grass is getting all parched up. There is a big creek about a mile and a half from our place, and there are all kinds of ferns growing on its banks. With kind regards, I remain, your affectionate niece,—Lizzie Bettineilli.

HOT WINDS AND BUSH-FIRES. Baddaginnie, Jan. 1, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie.—I now take the pleasure of writing you a few lines to wish you a very happy New Year. I stayed at my grandpa's for a few days. The weather is very hot now, and the hot winds and fires are terrible. I hope you, Uncle Ben, and Cousins Connie and Florrie, spent a very merry Christmas, and I also hope all your nieces and nephews spent a merry Christmas, too. Since I last wrote to you, I have a little baby brother, whose name is Leslie Ross. He is such a dear, fat little fellow. He was 17 weeks old last Wednesday. We are getting a new teacher after the holidays. The people of Violet town got up a very nice tree for the children on New Year's Eve. I got some of the toys off it. I hope to go up to Broken River this year. I always read the "Young Folks" page. I was glad when I saw that

my cousin, Christina White, had won a prize. I like reading the short stories very much. Nearly everybody around here has finished harvesting now. I remain, your affectionate niece,—MYRTLE J. WELSH aged 12 years.

WATER VERY SCARCE. Meredith, Jan. 1, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie.—We are having some very hot days now, and the things are very dry. Nearly all the crops are cut down, and some are carted in. We have not many flowers now, or vegetables. The water is getting very scarce, and I am afraid it will be short of water if it does not rain. The water-hole is getting dry. We pumped the well out, so that it will have clean water when it rains. My brother is working up the country, but I think he will soon be home. I had a number of nice things for Christmas and New Year. With love to Cousins Connie and Florrie, and Uncle Ben, not forgetting yourself, I remain, your affectionate niece,—JANE SMITH, Merribe, age 13 years.

FOND OF SCHOOL. Mirboo North, 25th December, 1904.—Dear Aunt Connie.—This has been very hot here lately, and the grass is beginning to dry up. We are milking thirty-eight cows, and they give a lot of milk. Our school teacher, Mr. Wilson, has left, and we were all very sorry to lose him. He has been here five years. I like going to school very much. I am in the upper fifth class. We have all our hay in now. It looked very pretty before we cut it down. With love to Uncle Ben, Cousins Connie and Florrie, not forgetting yourself, I remain, your affectionate niece,—JANE SMITH, Merribe, age 13 years.

THREE MILES TO SCHOOL. Murrah-bolno, Jan. 5th, 1905.—Dear Aunt Connie.—This is the first time I have written to you. I go to school, and I passed the examination in the fourth class, and was put into the fifth. I have three miles to walk to school. There are about thirty children attending the school to which I go. I like reading the "Young Folks" page very much. I have five brothers and one sister. We have two pet lambs, and two dogs. We had rain on Monday and Tuesday. We are milking thirty cows now. Our water-hole are getting dry. I was eleven years in November. With love to Cousins Connie and Florrie, not forgetting yourself, I remain, your would-be niece, AILIA LILLIAN HART, P.S.—Please may I write again? (Yes, Ads.—Aunt Connie).

APPLE TIME. The apples were ripe and beginning to fall. Down! down! they came, one and all. The children danced and laughed with glee. And cried aloud, "This one's for me!"

These apples, so ruddy and round and ripe, Were just the kind for children's delight; And as they scampered across the lea They laughed and talked of their wonderful trees.

The apples were not only for the little chums, But also for the older ones. Who gathered them up and put them in cases And sent them away.—(J.T. (age 13 years).

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The following amount has been received for the Cot in the Children's Hospital:—Ethel Dergholm, Is.

THE VICTORIAN INFANT ASYLUM.

Winnie Smith, Lyndon, Moama; Pinafort and chemise.

THE LITTLE LOAF.

In a time of famine a rich man permitted the poorest children of the city to come to his house, and said to them, "There stands a crustful of bread. Each of you take a loaf from it, and you may come every day until God sends better times."

The children at once surrounded the baker, striving and quarrelling over the bread, because each desired to obtain the finest, and they finally went off without a word of thanks.

Only Franziska, a clean, but poorly-clad little girl, remained standing at a distance, then took the smallest of the loaves left in the basket, kissed her hand gratefully to the man, and went quietly and becomingly home.

On the next day the children were equally ill-mannered, and Franziska this time had a loaf which was scarcely half as large as the others; but when she reached home and her mother broke the bread, there fell out quite a number of new silver pieces. The mother was frightened, and said, "Take the money at once, for it certainly got into the bread by accident."

Franziska did as she was bid, but the benevolent man said to her, "No, no; it was not an accident. I had the silver baked in the smallest loaf in order to reward thee, thou good child. Ever remain as peace-loving and satisfied."

He who would rather have a smaller loaf than quarrel about a greater, will always bring a blessing to the home, even though no silver is baked in the bread.

130 to 152 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.

VICTORIA.

The Minister of Mines has decided that the Central Plateau (Bailarath) will have to carry out the pumping agreement entered into with

MINING SCHOLARSHIP

INTER-STATE.

The business necessary to the "make-up" of an actor invariably has a detrimental and irritating effect on the skin.

In such cases Zam-Buk has been found invaluable as a soothing and healer. Mr. A. Newbery, Opera House, Brisbane, Q., bears witness to this fact, and writes:—
"I have derived so much benefit from the use of Zam-Buk that it is with pleasure I acquainted you with the facts. I am an actor by profession, and as you may surmise, "make-ups" do not improve the skin or complexion, so I was agreeably surprised to find that a light application of Zam-Buk allays the irritation and burning, which are the after-effects of rouge, etc. Also after shaving, I find that the use of Zam-Buk makes and keeps the face smooth and supple, and it has also been the means of removing pimples and blackheads, and has also been of some use. Altogether, I consider Zam-Buk to be a splendid all-round healing Balm and Embrocation." Zam-Buk, the great healer, is a speedy cure for Piles, Eczema, Boils, Running Sores, Sore Legs, Ringworm, Barocco, Etc. As an Embrocation for Strained Muscles and Tendons, Zam-Buk, rubbed well into the parts affected, is unequalled. As a Household Balm for Cuts, Burns, Bruises, Pimples, Blackheads, Prickly Heat, Freckles, Sunburn, Itch, and Bites of Insects, Zam-Buk is invaluable. From all medicine vendors, 1/6, or 3/6 family size (containing nearly four times the quantity), or from Zam-Buk Co., Pitt street, Sydney. Send a penny stamp for FREE SAMPLE POT.
EVERY HOME NEEDS ZAM-BUK.
—(Adv't.)

STOCKS AND SHARES.

were regarded as above their price, or the
 prosperity of the last few months has proved
 that the market is not so much in a re-
 sist. Suffice it to say that although prices
 are rising, that although the two companies
 are working the same dirt contently, that
 although the good fortune of one is the good
 fortune of the other, that although the
 from the Brothers' Home No. 1, the market
 for the Brothers' Home No. 1 has fallen
 a crown since the resumption of business
 about a fortnight ago.
 Victoria's market is not as exulting one.
 Business is still at a low ebb, many of the
 miners have not yet got into full swing since
 the holidays, the gold returns being for
 broken time, and except towards the Bat-
 tle of the Marston, the market is a two of two.
 Bendigo, Geelong, and Rutherglen are crowded
 ventures, the market appears to be indif-
 ferent.
 Woad, Hlaw, No. 1 are getting some splen-
 did dividends, but the market is not so

Consols Extended. West Berry Consols, or the other hand, are shortening sail and falling back in price.

Board of Works debentures maintain the advanced for holiday prices, and Silverton Tram is higher. These are the most important movements in investments.

The following are the sales recorded for the week:—

—Victoria: 3 per cent, 1st July 1921-1930, L87 10s. 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock 129, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works: 4 per cent, 1st April, 1909, L101 5s. 4 per cent, 1st October, 1925, L101 10s. 34s. 4 per cent, 1st October, 1940, L23 15s. L24.

—New Zealand: 5 per cent, 1st July, 1920-1930, Commercial (pref.), 801s.

—Building Societies.—County of Bourke, 20s 4d.

Gas.—Metropolitan, L5 ss.

Trusts and Executors Companies.—Perpetual Trustee Co., Ltd., Melbourne Tramways (ex dir.), 22s 4d. Silverton Tramway, 5s 4d 5s, 5s 4d, 5s.

Miscellaneous.—Howard Smith (5s paid), 4s 10s.—Stowell, Ballarat and District.—Black Horse, 2s 6d. Duff & Wellman, 12s 4d. Duke of Wellington, 7d. Spring Hill and Central Leases, 2s 2d.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The following are the class lists and announcements of the award of the several exhibits in connection with this examination. The last place at which each of the successful candidates received instruction is given:—

EXPLANATIONS.

The following abbreviations are used in the subjoined lists:—Melbourne Candidates—C.B.C.E.M., Christian Brothers College, East Melbourne; C.C.C., Central College, Carlton; C.E.G.S., Church of England Grammar School, Melbourne; C.E.G.G.S., Church of England Girls' Grammar School, Melbourne; C.G.S., Caulfield Grammar; H.C., Hawthorn College; H.G.S., Hawthorn Grammar School; M.L.C., Methodist Ladies' College; P.L.C., Presbyterian Ladies' College; P.T., private tuition; S.C., Scotch College; S.M.C., South Melbourne College; U.H.S., University High School; W.C., Wesley College. County Candidates.—C.E.G.S., Geelong Church of England Grammar School, Geelong; G.C., Geelong College.

on Saturday, the C.E.G.S., Ballarat, was

unadvertently omitted.

Greek and Latin.—First Class (in Order of Merit):—Burns, Harold May, S.C.; Frederick Spencer Burnell, Haysbury College, Herts.; John W. Wild, Leys College, C.E.G. (equal). Second Class (in Order of Merit):—Kathleen Phipps, P.L.C.; Florence Victoria Langford, P.L.C.; Kenneth Travers Stephens, Haysbury College, Brighton; Francis Esmont Keane, Xavier's College, Kew; Valentine George Huxford, Haysbury College, Herts.; George Huxford Paterson, C.E.G.S., Guelson; Guido Baracchi, C.E.G.S.; John Harold Sterling, Queen's College, Maryborough; Ernest Harold Vines, S.C.; Margaret Sandeman, Xavier, P.L.C. Third Class (in Alphabetical Order):—John A. Cameron, P.L.C.; Mervyn Bourne, Higgins; John P. Kelly, Xavier; M. Quen S.C.; Leo Clement O'Kelly, Xavier College; Geoffrey Madin Rollason, C.E.G.S.; Christian Jollie Brynhild Ochiltree, Smith.

Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry—First Class (in Order of Merit)—Alfred Wiltart, Charles Burston, S.M.C.; Theodore Carlton, C.E.G.S.; Geology: Francis Jones, Short, W.C. (equal), Glen, S.M.C.; Norman Charles Harris, S.C. Second Class (in Order of Merit)—Kathleen Phipps, P.L.C.; James Homery Linton, C.E.G.S.; Geology: Florence Victoria Langford, P.L.C.; James Robert Bond, L.C.; Joseph Horacio Dwyer, S.C.; Norman, C.E.S.; Percival Robert Hodgson, W.C. (equal), Glen, S.M.C.; Vincent Paul Healy, S.M.C.; Dorothy Courtney Newham, S.M.C.; Carl Simeon Pirani, C.E.G.S. (equal); Sae Elisabeth Gunderson; William Kinnear Taylor, S.C.; Charles William Bond, S.M.C.; James Macdonald Field, S.M.C. Third Class (in Order of Merit)—Edward Frederick Robert Bagge, C.E.G.S.; James Arthur Edgerton, W.C.

Thomas Ernest Victor, Hurley, W.C.; Fran
Arthur, Jenkins, H.C.; Arthur Craven Jones,
C.B.S.; George Samuel Keane, Xavier
Colgate, New Claude Williams, C.B.S.;
Malcolm Stewart Moore, C.B.S.;
Ogilvie, U.H.S.; Frederick Stanley Parry,
U.H.S.; Geoffrey Mallin Rollason, C.E.G.
The exhibition is awarded to Alfred William
English and Historic S.M.C.
English and Historic First Class (in Order
of Merit)—Mary Glowry, S.M.C.; Thomas
art Clynne, W.C.; John Edward Years Wan
nan, U.H.S.; William George Dismore Upjohn
W.C.; Rae Vivienne Mendoza, S.M.C.; Kath
C.B.S.; Friend, M.L.C.; John Kellerman
Adey, C.B.S.;
Merit)—Colman Silbermann, C.B.S.;
Kew; Gerald Patrick O'Day, St. Patrick's Col
lege, Ballarat; Oscar George Pearson, H.Q.S.
Murray Gladstone Patten, S.C.; Evelyn
Thomson, Gladstone Convent, Windon
The Thomas Alexander Ogilvie, S.C.; Stuart War
son Irwin, S.C.; Peter Joseph O'Connell, C.B.C.
C.B.C., E.M.; Thomas Patrick Noonan
Xavier's College, Kew; John Stanislaus
Reginald Rowan, St. Patrick's College, Balla
rat. Third Class (in Alphabetical Order)—
John Hopwood, C.E.G.S.; William Wil
kes, Stuart Johnston, C.B.S.

mine Friederike Ulrich, P.L.C.; Margaret K. Brown, C.E.G.S.; Catherine Elsie Muir, U.S. Third Class in Alphabetical Order; Rhoda Lizzie Ladd, S.M.C.; Bessie Wilson, S.M.C. The exhibition was won by Estelle Crowcrow, P.L.C. and Eveline Winifred Sykes, C.E.G.S., equal.

Chemistry and Physics.—First Class Order of Merit.—Victor Gordon Crowlow, C.E.G.S.; Alan Love Galbraith, S.M.C.; William George Dismore Upjohn, W.C., equal; Edward Frederick Robert Bage, C.E.G.S.; Howard Carleton Sutton, C.E.S.; George Joseph Horace Dowling, W.C. and Thomson Tait, G.C., equal. Second Class Order of Merit).—Francis John Short, W.C.

Richard Samuel Morris, S.M.C.; Alexan-
Ormond Rentoul, S.C.; Thomas Stuart Cly-
W.C.; Walter Freeman Brownell, W.
James Chambers Craig, S.C., and Elsie Lill
Thomas, S.M.C., equal; Carl Simeon Pira-
C.B.G.S.; Charles William Berry Littlejohn
S.C.; James Arthur Edgerton, W.C.; Jan-

Robert Pound, H.C., and Glenn Sme C.E.G.S., equal. Third Class (in Alphabetical Order).—John Charles Campbell, S.C.; Sy

man George Croker C.G.S.; James Gerry
Roy Felstead, W.C.; Frederick Willm
Grutznher, G.C.; Norman Charles Harris, S.
Arthur Wilhelm Hartkopf, S.C.; Percy Rob
Hodgson, W.C.; Thomas Ernest Victor Ho
ley, W.C.; Arthur Theodore Langley, C.E.U.
Geelong; James Hemery Lindon, C.E.G.
Geelong; Robert Allan Gordon Malcol
S.M.C.; Arthur Adrian M'Kay, C.E.G.

Charles Ogilvie, U.H.S.; Alexander John Robertson, School of Mines, Bendigo; Mor-

Nore Philip Woolf, W.C. The exhibition awarded to Victor Gordon Crawford, C.E.G. Elementary Anatomy and Physiology. Borden, W.C. The exhibition awarded to Annie Victoria M'Cowan, Milverton Ladies College, Camberwell; Enid Ethel M'Kenzie, Clarendon College, Ballarat. Second Class Order of Merit—Helen Stuart Howe, Clarendon College, Ballarat, and Helen Francis McRobert, W.C. The exhibition awarded to Wood, P.L.C.; Constance Myra Murrell, Synnam Ladies' College, Essendon; Florence Ethel Crawford, "Cromarty," Elsternwick. James Gerald Roy Peisend, W.C., and Wilfred Mary Taylor, Milverton Ladies College, Camberwell. W.C. The exhibition awarded to Third Class (in Alphabetical Order).—Nell Ivie Allan, Clarendon College, Ballarat; George Clemes Buzzard, Synnam Ladies' College, Essendon; Euphemia Morrison Macdonald, P.L.C.; Marion Isabella Pearson, P.L.C.; and Annie Victoria M'Cowan, Milverton Ladies College, Camberwell.

—Roland Francis Smith, W.C. Third Class (Alphabetical Order).—John Malcolm Bortwick, S.C.; Eleanor Mary Flanagan, Loretta, S.C.; Eleanor Mary Flanagan, Loretta, S.C.; Eleanor Mary Flanagan, Loretta, S.C.

Grammar School.
Music.—First Class.—None. Second Class.
Agnes Wilhelmina Paul, Girls' High School.
Sale. Third Class.—Julie Abrahams, "Ob-
wyl," St. Kilda.

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FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

FEBRUARY.	
LEONGATHA	10
KORUMBURLA	15
ROMSEY	22
.....	23
.....	23

MARCH.	
.....	1
.....	1
.....	1
.....	1
.....	1

OCTOBER.	
.....	20

RING OF REASONS.

JANUARY.	
Geo. Thos. Chirnside, Pirron	525
Wm. Timothy Bagnall, Kiora	12

ACHING LAND SALES.

.....	158
.....	158
.....	158
.....	158

COURING OF CHEESE.

DURED AN IMPROVEMENT.

In the "Cold Storage" of December, 1904, following paragraph relating to the cooling of cheese appears:—
"Several of Canadian cheese from the Government cooling rooms at Ottawa were recently assigned to merchants in Great Britain, with a view of getting a report on the quality of the cool-cured cheese as compared with the ordinary cheese cured at ordinary temperature. The merchants who received the cheese had then examined the quality of the cheese in their various lots. The report made by a committee of those who examined one lot was as follows:—
"Cool-curing during the summer months has decided improvement over the ordinary method, and improves the quality of the cheese not less than 25, and in some cases 40, per cent. (b) Paraffining in some cases is an improvement when thoroughly applied on the outside, close textured cheese, but does not improve on mushy, soft and acid cheese."
Messrs Andrew Clement and Sons, of Glasgow, who forwarded this report to the Dairy Commissioner, concurred in it, and expressed a desire to see cool-curing made compulsory.
The Director of Agriculture states that the Victorian Department of Agriculture conducted experiments in 1902 at the Government Cold Storage, with satisfactory results, and last season stored quantities during summer on all of a number of manufacturers. Similar facilities are offered this year; the charges amount to 3d per 100lb. for the first week and 12d per week or portion thereof following. Cheese for storage should be consigned in cases—which will be returned when empty—and addressed, freight pre-paid, to the manager, Government Cold Storage, Flinders street.

ANOTHER SUCCESS

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St. Louis Exhibition, THE SPLIT-WING IMPROVED ALFA-LAVAL SECURED THE ONLY AWARD (THE GRAND PRIZE) OFFERED FOR CREAM SEPARATORS, DEFEATING ALL OTHER MAKES.

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A DAIRY SCHOOL IS NEEDED.

A dairy school is much needed in Victoria. The Agricultural College at Dookie serves a useful purpose in educating students in the general principles of agriculture and the growing of farm crops. As dairying has become the second most important industry in the State, it is time that something should be done towards better technically educating those engaged in that industry. Generally speaking, Victorian dairymen possess a good practical knowledge of their work. Of late years, however, science has been brought into requisition both on the dairy farm and in the butter factory. With the aid of science we bring about a better system of production. With science everything is done with a special purpose in view, and those who apply science in any branch of farming usually succeed in gaining their purpose. Science prevents wastes and leakages in the cost of farm management. There is a lot of money to be saved by acquiring a correct knowledge of the laws of breeding cattle for a special purpose, and it is equally important that cows, and particularly dairy cows, should be bred for a special purpose. By applying the correct principles of breeding and feeding to the management of the dairy, the cost of milk production is correspondingly reduced. It is here where the Danes and other growers of milk on the continent of Europe have an advantage over Australian dairy farmers. They have reduced every branch of dairying to a science. With the increased production of butter that is steadily going on, prices are certain to become lower, and it is the country that will produce the cheapest that will win.

Several attempts during the past ten years have been made to establish a dairy school or college in Victoria. Experts have been appointed to inspect and recommend suitable sites, but in every instance the sites selected were freehold land, and what were considered exorbitant prices being asked, the purchase never was proceeded with. The Department of Agriculture appears to forget that on the property known as the Labor Colony at Leongatha there is an admirable site for a dairy school which is owned by the Crown. Situated in the very centre of the largest butter-producing territory in Victoria, it is an ideal spot for a dairy school. With very little outlay, comparatively speaking, a valuable institution could quickly be established. As the cost has hitherto always proved the sole obstacle towards establishing such a school in Victoria, that plea can no longer be justified. At Leongatha there are about 400 acres of land, so well improved that only a small outlay would be required to equip it for the purpose indicated. Centrally situated, and within easy reach by rail, Leongatha possesses all the advantages needed for a dairy school. This proposal is one that ought to receive the serious consideration of the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Swinburne.

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Rabbits have made their appearance in the Stratford district.

It is estimated that the Commonwealth will this year export 20,000,000 bushels of wheat.

Large quantities of wheat are now being carted daily to the Elmore railway station.

At Gordons the rainfall during December was the lowest ever recorded in that district.

The wheat harvest at Hopetoun is about over, and the carting of the grain is now general.

The council of the Shire of Borung has decided to discontinue paying bonuses for sparrows heads and eggs.

Wheat harvesting in the Cobram district will be about finished this week. The district will average 10 bushels per acre.

Owing to the continued dry weather the grass in the Mornington district has dried up much earlier than usual this year.

More rain is needed in the Mornington district to develop the pea and potato crops to maturity.

A fat steer, weighing 3060lb., said to be heavier than any fat animal sold in the Chicago saleyards, was exhibited at the World's Fair, Illinois.

Artesian water has been tapped in the basin of the Adelaide plains S.A., within three miles of Adelaide. The supply is at the rate of over 15,000 gallons per hour.

The compulsory destruction of all thistles, except variegated and Scotch, has been recommended to the Municipal Association by the Wyndham Shire Council.

The high temperature of last week caused great damage in the vineyards in the Barnawartha district. It is feared that full one-half of the grape crop has been destroyed.

The continued absence of rain is causing alarm in the Gordons district. Water has to be carted for domestic purposes. The total rainfall for 1904 was 8 1/4 inches less than during 1903.

The councils of the Shires of Wyndham, Bairnsdale, Cranbourne, and South Barwon decline to co-operate with the Department of Agriculture in offering a bonus for the destruction of starlings.

The loading of the barque Formosa, the first vessel to arrive at Geelong for the new season's wheat, commenced last week. Electric carriers are used for loading the grain, and are working satisfactorily.

Swine fever appears to have firmly established itself in the Colac district. The inspectors report that there is no sign of abatement. Pig sales at Colac are seriously affected, buyers declining to purchase.

Rabbits are numerous in the Echuca district, and a special temporary inspector has been appointed by the Pastures Protection Board, Deniliquin, to make a report on the holdings between Mathoura and Moama.

The New Zealand Department of Agriculture has offered a bonus of £500 for an efficient method of exterminating noxious weeds. Twelve competitors are now treating patches of land on the Tolara Estate, near Oamaru.

Mr John Richardson, of Docker's Plains, near Wangaratta, has thrashed 95 bags of wheat that he grew from a 10-acre paddock. The bags will average 4 1/2 bushels each, making the yield an average of 42 1/2 bushels per acre.

Hay-growing has always been regarded as the chief occupation of the farmers in the Werribee district. Splendid samples of wheat, oats and barley have been grown this season. In future, grain-growing will receive greater attention than in the past.

A statistical summary of the amount of prize money given for horses, cattle, sheep, and swine at the recent St. Louis exhibition, U.S.A., gives the following allotment:—Horses, £26,466; cattle, £29,903; sheep, £11,454; swine, £10,812. Including poultry, pigeons, and pet animals, the total prize money amounted to £87,740 2s.

By advertisement on the cover of "The Weekly Times," Mr Hugh V. McKay, the maker of "Sunshine" harvesters, announces that his Melbourne office is at 663 Bourke street. The factories, it is well known, are at Braybrook and Ballarat. Mr McKay is sole agent for the Farmers' Favorite disc and hoe drills.

While out mustering in the Snowflake-Linton Downs country, Kalkoura district, a party of four were caught in the snowstorm of Tuesday, December 13th. Two of the number managed to make the camp, very much exhausted, but the other two young men named James Rainey and John Stank—perished in the cold and snow. Their bodies were not found until a week afterwards.

Mr Kilen, of Bull Plain, in Southern Riverina, is experimenting with a traction engine for hauling produce to the railway. Two waggon, holding 10 tons each, were drawn to Corowa. The only difficulty experienced was that a supply of water was not available on the road to replenish the boilers. Keen interest has been taken in the experiments. Anything in the way of cheapening cartage will be an advantage to farmers.

In the open competition for practical farm examinations, recently held at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, New South Wales, in which 71 of the most competent second year's students in the diploma class competed, Norman Elliott, a son of Mr William Elliott, proprietor of the "Riverina Herald," Jerilderie, a first year's student at the college, came out top, securing 92 marks out of a possible 100, the next to him obtaining 84 marks. There were eight subjects in the examination.

The crops in the province of Canterbury, New Zealand, are making fair growth, but in some cases they are looking rather too brown in the blade to be thoroughly healthy. On the whole, however, there is promise of an average yield. A start has been made with the haymaking, but the broken weather has retarded operations. The frequent showers are delaying the shearing, and the machine-shorn sheep have suffered severely from the cold weather, the losses by death being very considerable.

When the circular from the Department of Agriculture re the destruction of starlings came before the South Barwon Shire Council last week, Cr Andresen stated that one of his crops was recently infested with caterpillars, and there did not appear to be any prospect of an ear being left until the starlings arrived and cleared every grub off the land in four days. Cr White, a pastoralist, also spoke in favor of the starling as an insect destroyer, and pointed out that the good it did in that direction more than counterbalanced the damage done by the birds in orchards. No action was taken.

Denmark is now a strong competitor in the English bacon markets. Some few

years ago the Danish bacon did not suit the English taste. After many experiments however, it was found that by crossing the native breeds of pigs with middle and large white Yorks, a quickly-growing and early maturing animal was produced, and this cross has been generally adopted. There are now extensive bacon factories in Denmark, managed on the co-operative principle, and pig-rearing is carried on by all farmers and cottagers. As a general rule all slaughtering places have connected with them an egg-exporting society, or co-operation, where all eggs collected are sorted, graded, and despatched to England.

The "Weekly News" says that there has been a sequel to the outbreak of disease amongst the potatoes in the province of Auckland, New Zealand, a gazette supplement declaring early blight (alternaria solani) and potato rot, or Irish potato blight (phytophthora infestans) to be diseases within the meaning of the Orchard and Garden Pests Act. This Act provides that the Governor "may from time to time, by Order-in-Council gazetted, prohibit the bringing into any specified portion of New Zealand from any other portion of New Zealand of any specified plant, etc., which in his opinion is diseased, or is likely to spread disease.

"A Gigantic Gamble," is the forcible title applied to the great potato boom in England by the "Yorkshire Post." In no department is there greater room for the exercise of real skill than in the production of new varieties, either of stock or crops. But, as the "Post" points out, there is a wide difference between legitimate business of this kind and the gambling propensities brought to light during the past few years, or, perhaps more correctly, months. Many of the alleged new varieties are not new, and a large number of so-called "new" varieties are really one variety under different names. Let it be clearly understood that in the production of new potatoes there is an admirable field for enterprise. But between enterprise and roguery there is no true affinity. The man who puts a genuine, sound, good, prolific variety on the market is a public benefactor. Success attend him!

Commenting on the frozen lamb export trade, the "Australian Meat Trades Journal," Sydney, writes as follows:—Sheep breeders in New South Wales and Queensland are at last waking up to the fact that there is good money in breeding fat lambs for export. Almost every steamer arriving from New Zealand is now bringing consignments of Shropshire, Southdown, Leicester and Lincoln sheep. The Romneys, however, are not being patronised as they should be: some of our districts are particularly fitted for these hardy, prolific sheep. The Shropshire ram and merino ewe make a good cross, but we should warn our breeders that the lambs of this cross must not receive a check; they must be on good feed all the time till they are ready for market. It looks as if we are at last going to make a bid for this trade to some purpose, and it is to be hoped that by this time next year a different export trade will have to be reported. So far, it has been unsatisfactory as regards quantity. Victoria and South Australia have sent

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RENARD FERTILIZER CO., Melbourne.

MANURING OF SWEDES.

USE OF ARTIFICIALS.

During the season of 1903 experiments were conducted by the Agricultural Department of the Durham College, in conjunction with the County Councils of Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland, on the manuring of swedes and turnips. The report on the experiments with swedes although it divulges nothing new is interesting. The objects of the experiments are given as follows:—

Objects.—(1) To ascertain the special requirements of the crop in the way of manurial ingredients; (2) to compare the value of basic slag and superphosphate; (3) to compare the effects of stable manure and artificial; and (4) to determine the most satisfactory dressing of artificial to use in conjunction with stable manure.

Thirteen plots, each of 1-27 acre, were used at each centre. On plot No. 2 a standard dressing consisted of 1 cwt nitrate, 3 cwt sulphate of ammonia, 4 cwt superphosphate, 2½ cwt slag, and ½ cwt muriate of potash was used. Of other five plots this was varied by omission of one ingredient, and on six stable manure, in conjunction with artificial, was used, while one plot had no manure of any kind.

The trials were carried out in entirety at nine centres, but all the crops were so light at one centre that the average of the other eight was struck. The best results were given by the standard dressing, and in all cases where stable manure was used a loss resulted.

From the evidence given by the experiments, phosphates appeared the most important ingredient in the manures, for on the average where phosphates were withheld from the standard mixture the loss was 19s 4d per acre, reckoning swedes, as has been done in arriving at the results, at 8s a ton. When nitrogen was withheld the profit was 2s 4d, and when potash 10s 8d per acre, as against 12s 3d in the case of the standard manure. Thus the nitrogen had also considerable effect on the financial aspect of the returns. As a matter of fact, at four of the centres it appeared to be the most important constituent. The average results are influenced by the miserably poor results on the plots without phosphates at two centres.

Where all the phosphate was given in form of slag the profit per acre was 10s 5d, and where all was given in form of super the profit was 7s 7d. The super produced 14 tons 17½ cwt per acre, rather over half a ton more than the slag, but the extra expense of the manure made the profit less.

USE OF STABLE MANURE.

As has been mentioned, dung did not prove successful, either with or without artificial. The stable manure was valued at 3s a ton, and the application of 12 tons per acre resulted in a loss of 10s 9d, the increase of the crop being over 6 tons. Thus it compared badly with the complete artificial manure. When stable manure was used with artificial the results were even worse. When the standard dressing of artificial was added the loss was 11s 8d per acre, without the nitrogen in the artificial mixture the loss was 11s 10d, and the results with other combinations of artificial were equally bad.

In all these cases of profit and loss results the cost of the manure has been charged to the swede crop, which, of course, could not be done in practice. The comparison, however, shows the relative value of the different dressings. The biggest "loss" of all was on the plot which had stable manure and a standard dressing of artificial minus the phosphates, namely, 11s 10s per acre. The cost of the manure was 14s 7s 2d, which left a deficit of 11s 10s after reckoning the increased crop. It is quite possible, indeed probable, that the residual value of the manure was worth rather more than this, but still it does not alter the fact that if one desires to grow swedes the standard artificial mixture will give the best immediate returns.

CONCLUSIONS.

The following conclusions are given in the report:—

- (1) On the average of eight centres, phosphoric acid proved last season to be the most important manurial ingredient for the swede crop, and potash the least.
- (2) Seeing that soils and seasons vary so much in character, it is as a rule safer to use "complete" dressings, when artificial alone are applied.
- (3) Superphosphate has given on the average a slightly better crop than basic slag, but the latter has been the more profitable, while a mixture of the two is still more so.
- (4) Dung alone did not on the average prove so profitable as artificial alone, so far as the swede crop was concerned.
- (5) The addition of artificial to dung resulted financially in a very considerable loss throughout.
- (6) Potash was the least necessary ingredient when artificial were used in conjunction with dung, although "complete" artificial gave the best return.
- (7) Superphosphate with dung proved, on the whole, to be less profitable than dung alone, and still less so than the standard artificial alone.
- (8) While dung alone paid better than any combination of artificial with dung, the most profitable results were obtained from artificial alone, as applied to plot 2.

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While you work. Pay 2s when cured. Send two stamps to **JAMES CRAIG & CO.,** 31 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

COWS TESTED AT SHOWS.

METHODS OF FEEDING.

In a letter to the London "Gazette" an English dairyman gives his method of feeding cows during a public test, with advice as to treatment, which has the merit of being simple and being easily followed:—

"The production of milk having become the staple industry of farming, the breeding of good dairy cows should receive encouragement and liberal support, and there is nothing that will further the object more than carefully conducted milking trials and butter tests. It is impossible to select the best dairy cow from a fair-sized class without testing them.

"The feeding for quantity and quality of milk needs great skill and attention, although there is nothing more written upon in our live stock and agricultural papers than the rations for dairy cows, and nothing more variable than their formula. There is a difficulty to be met at this time of the year that seems to have escaped attention, that is the difficulty of obtaining suitable green food at our summer shows for cows that have been allowed to grass previous to their being exhibited. The green food found by the societies varies from lucerne and sainfoin to mixed clover and grasses, often so much fermented by being cut too long that the cattle will not eat it. The safest course to ensure success is not to feed on green food at all, but to depend only on such foods as can be taken with you, thereby avoiding the possibility of your cow or cows being thrown off their feed just when you want them at their best.

"As regards cakes and meals, there is probably nothing to equal or surpass one part of best linseed cake to three parts of decorticated cotton cake, with good hay and water ad libitum. Commence with four pounds of the mixed cakes per day, increasing to eight or twelve pounds per day, according to the size and appetite of your cow, keeping a watchful eye so as not to sicken or purge; the cakes being rather hard require good mastication, and being greatly relished cause a free flow of saliva, rendering digestion easy and assimilation perfect. Be sure to obtain your cake from a reliable source, with a guarantee of purity. Many competitors feed with mashes and other slops, with the result of a large quantity of milk of poor quality, and this is attributed to the food being swallowed too rapidly, and not being properly digested; in fact, to overload the stomach defeats your object of obtaining the best results.

"The treatment of cows having to travel any distance to shows requires attention. They should be fed sparingly the day previous to the journey, and should only get a little hay and water on the morning before they start. To truck cattle with loaded stomachs upsets their whole system, and causes the attendant a lot of unnecessary work; but if lightly fed the animals will stand their journey much better, and commence feeding as soon as they reach their destination. A careful herdsman will see that his charge is not disturbed by every passer-by. Quietude is essential to dairy cows.

"The milking is a most important item, and upon which success much depends. The cow and her milker should be on the best of terms; in fact, they should be positively fond of each other. The milking should be done so carefully that the cow looks forward to the operation as a relief and comfort; the pace at which the milk should be drawn must be regulated by the cow and not the milker. It is all very well for men to talk about fast or slow milking, but it must be done in accordance with the construction of the udder and teats. If the latter are large and the outlet the same, free milking may take place, but if the teats are small and the passage somewhat constricted, it is impossible to force out the milk rapidly without causing the animal pain; therefore slow milking must be resorted to. Be sure and get the last drop out, that is often what wins."

THE PEOPLE'S MILK.

A DAIRYMAN PROSECUTED.

EVIDENCE OF ANALYSTS.

At the Hawthorn Court on Tuesday Henry Emery, dairyman, of John Street, Glenferrie, was proceeded against by William B. Sexton, health inspector for the City of Hawthorn, on a charge of selling milk not of the substance and quality demanded by the purchaser.

Mr. Derham appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Gaunson for the defendant. The prosecutor stated that at 7.45 a.m. on the 30th November, he purchased a pint and a half of milk from defendant in Lisson Grove. The analyst's certificate showed that the milk contained 6 per cent of added water.

Defendant, Henry Emery, said that he had been a dairyman for nine years. He mixed no water with the milk purchased by the inspector on 30th November, nor did anybody else. On the afternoon of the 18th December he informed the inspector at his premises that he intended to fight the case, as his milk was pure. Felix Kruse, analyst, deposed that the first sample of milk received by him from defendant was on 16th December. Allowing for the decomposition of non-fat solids, there was 5.9 per cent of non-fat solids when sold, and fatty solids 2.5 per cent.

BACON TYPE IN BOARS.

The results of experiments in bacon production are given in a bulletin issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The report is drawn up by Mr. G. E. Day, B.S.A., Professor of Agriculture at the Ontario Agricultural College. We give an extract with reference to bacon type in boars:—

"In the first place a boar should show male character and give indications of strong constitution. He should have good width between fore-legs, and be thick through the heart, or just back of the elbow. He should be deep from the top to bottom back of the shoulder; and the space back of the shoulder should be well filled out, giving a good heart girth. The jaw should be broad and strong, but not fat and flabby; the forehead broad, and the poll broad and full. The neck should be of medium length and strongly muscled, but should show no heavy crown of fat. The eye should be large, full, and bright, and his general appearance should indicate alertness and activity.

"The shoulders are heavier than would be desirable in a sow or barrow; and as he grows older 'shields' develop on the sides, which often give the appearance of roughness. He should be very compact on top, however, and blend well with the top line and the rib at this point. The bacon type shoulder is upright, making the animal comparatively short from the back of the shoulder to the head, and long from the back of the shoulder to the ham. This formation gives the largest development where the meat is most valuable.

"The spring of rib is very characteristic. It should arch out boldly from the backbone, then suddenly drop in an almost vertical direction, giving a flat, straight side. This point should receive special attention in making a selection, for it is a sure indication of a strong development of muscle along the back, and muscle is lean meat.

"The top line should rise slightly above the straight line, giving a very slight arch, the highest point of which is over the loin. The back should be of medium width, and uniform in width throughout. The loin should be as wide as the rest of the back, and be full, strong, and heavily muscled. The rump should be same width as the back and load slightly rounded from side to side over the top, and from the hips to the tail. The ham should taper towards the hock, and carry the flesh well down towards the hock, especially on the inside of the Shank.

"The underline should be trim and straight, showing no tendency towards a sagging belly, and the hind flanks should be full, giving good thickness through at this point.

"The legs should be of medium length, and the bone heavy, but clean, and presenting a flatish appearance. Rough, puffy legs are very undesirable; and it is also a serious objection to have the bone fine. The pasterns should be upright, so that the animal walks well up on his toes. A hog with weak pasterns should not be bred from.

"The carriage should be easy, the animal walking without apparent exertion, and without a swaying movement."

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in 148 hours. So as the keeping property of milk is concerned, low temperature is considered of more importance than cleanliness. In milk kept at 55deg. the species developing most rapidly is the undesirable one known as bacillus lactis aerogenes. At a temperature of 70 this species develops relatively less rapidly in the majority of cases than bacillus lactis acid, which latter is very desirable in both cream and cheese ripening.

The bacteria in milk kept at 50 deg. increase slowly, and later consist of very few lactic organisms, but of miscellaneous types, including many forms which render the milk unwholesome. These bacteria continue to grow slowly day after day, but the milk keeps sweet because the lactic organisms do not develop abundantly. Such milk, in the course of time, becomes far more unwholesome than sour milk, since it is filled with organisms that tend to produce putrefaction. A temperature of 50 deg. is recommended to keep milk sweet for the market.

Old milk is never wholesome, even though it has been kept at a temperature of 50 deg. and still remains sweet and uncurdled. Quite the contrary in this case if it has been kept at a temperature of 50 deg. or in this vicinity. It is not unlikely, it is said, that it is this fact leads to some of the cases of ice cream poisoning so common in summer. The cream is kept at a low temperature for several days, until a considerable quantity has accumulated, or a demand has come for ice cream, and when made into ice cream it is filled with bacteria in great numbers and of a suspicious character.

Country Letters.

TO COUNTRY CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters should reach this office not later than Monday to ensure publication the same week.

DENILQUIN.

January 7.

The closing week of the old year was perhaps the hottest experienced during the past decade. For four continuous days the temperature showed very little variation, even when the sun went down, and the atmosphere became impregnated with a choking smoke. A camp in the open was anything but agreeable or refreshing after the fatigues of such hot days.

The harvesting returns for this centre have been exceptionally good when it is taken into consideration that suitable rain did not fall until October, when everyone was predicting complete and absolute failure. The average for the Denilquin district is probably about 13 bushels to the acre, some being very poor, but others yielding as high as 7 bags and over.

About Mathoura, where the yield is usually first-class, the absence of moisture, coupled with the ravages of the rabbits and hot winds, reduced the average to about 10 bushels, but in the easterly direction, towards Finlay and Berri, the returns were somewhat better than Denilquin.

A choice portion of Hartwood Station has been set apart for cultivation on the halves system, and the returns, on the whole, have been most satisfactory. About a dozen harvesters and strippers were at work in one field, the winnowing for the latter being operated by horse-power. The wheat, on the whole, is clean, plump, and hard, very little being rejected by the energetic representatives of the various milling and exporting firms.

So far the district has been practically immune from bush fires, and there is ample feed and water to carry on until springtime. Stock of all descriptions are fat, but no sales of any importance are being effected. There will be a considerable increase in the area under cultivation during the coming year, and it is reasonable to expect that in March, April, September and October the district will soon regain its old flourishing condition.

SHEPPARTON.

Jan. 9.

Harvesting operations are nearing completion, and, generally speaking, the results are satisfactory. The fallowed lands in almost every case gave good returns, many paddocks going as high as seven bags to the acre. The wheat sown on lea land also produced well, giving returns of from three to five bags to the acre. The wheat grown in stubble land was poor and dirty, but the grain was plump. The returns on that class of land varied from one to three bags to the acre. As most of the wheat sown was on stubble land, our average, of course, is very materially reduced. Still we anticipate the respectable average of twelve bushels. It was noticeable that wherever wheat was sown on land that produced oats last year the yield was good.

The oat crop was a fair one, the average being about seven bags to the acre.

Very little cutting was done this year. The principal machine used was the combined harvester.

Stock sales are quiet just now owing to recent holidays, but many parcels of wheat are being sold locally at 3s.

THE NEW TUBULAR CREAM SEPARATOR.
THE CLOSEST SKIMMER.
Thoroughly Washed Inside Five Minutes.
BEATS THEM ALL FOR EASY RUNNING.

NO DISCS, CONES, ZIG-ZAG PLATES, NUTMEG-GRATER, CONTRACTIONS.
Or Bowl Complications Whatever.
Low-down Milk Vat—Only Waist-high.
No Exposed Gears.
Self-Oiling.

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OIL ENGINES
SIMPLEST, BEST, CHEAPEST.
NEWELL & CO.,
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SURE CURE FOR SCOUR.
"The result of your 'SALVITIS' ASTRINGENT has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. The case it was tried on was a most HOPELESS one, the calf being too weak to stand. Three days after it could walk about, and now it is COMING INTO ITS OWN." — M. J. RUSSELL, D.D., 1000 1st St., St. Louis, Mo.
For particulars of "SALVITIS" preparations, send stamp for Circular, and full particulars to SALVITIS CO., 408 N. 3rd St., St. Louis, Mo.

CONDITION OF HORSES.

WHAT IT IS, AND HOW TO GET IT.

Condition in horses (using the term as denoting "working condition") is obtained by the combined effects of regular exercise or work, of feeding them on hard corn and dry food generally, and of grooming. Whilst all horses which are worked require to be in some sort of condition in order to perform their work satisfactorily, the degree of hard condition that is necessary varies greatly according to the nature of the work which the horse is subjected to. Racehorses and hunters, for instance, must be in much harder condition than harness horses or hacks.

Step by step, as regards light horses, we may say that the faster the pace is at which a horse is required to work, the harder must be his condition (writes Kistner in "The Horse and Stockbreeder"). In the case of heavy horses, the nature of whose work does not require them to exceed a walking pace, the degree of condition they should be in is determined by the amount of work they have to do and the weight they are expected to haul.

The fact of a horse being in a working condition implies that he carries no superfluous fat, that his muscles are hard and well developed, that the tendons and ligaments are able to bear plenty of strain without injury, and that the wind is in good order, and also that he does not perspire and sweat excessively.

When horses which are not "fit" nor in good working condition are subjected to hard work, detrimental consequences may readily arise. Thus, in the case of a hunter not in condition, he is liable to strain his tendons or suspensory ligaments when galloping or jumping, owing to these not being sufficiently strong and hard to stand the strain imposed on them; or congestion of the lungs may be brought on by galloping an unfit hunter too hard or too long. In the case of harness horses or hacks which are worked when out of condition, the fact will not, as a rule, entail such injurious consequences as happens in the case of hunters. Simply put, the former are not subjected to such severe exertions. At the same time, it is very injudicious to work any kind of horse severely when not in working condition, because it entails an undue amount of wear on the limbs, which may show itself immediately manifest itself, but which is a cause of windgalls, enlarged tendons, thoroughpins, and "puffiness" of the fetlock joints.

YOUNG UNBROKEN HORSES.

As a question of condition cannot receive the careful attention when they are first broken in, being quite out of condition, and with soft, flabby muscles and weak tendons and ligaments, as well as possessing a big grass-belly, they require to be very moderately worked at first, and in no way should they be subjected to severe exertion until they have been got into some sort of working condition by exercise and feeding on hard corn. Over-exercising of young horses is but too frequently the cause of their becoming prone to wind, especially in regard to the lungs. It is necessary, first, to get a young horse into hard condition before any real work is required of him. To subject him to severe exertions of any kind before hard condition has been obtained cannot fail to have very injurious results, and may lead to disastrous consequences. As a rule, the same remarks apply to mature horses when they are first put out to grass or have to be broken in to their working condition as the result of having been out of condition for some time.

FEEDING.

As already intimated, it is essential to feed horses on hard corn and dry food if they are to be got into or kept in hard condition. The harder the condition required, the more corn must be given. Too large quantities of hay are detrimental to good condition, as they extend the digestive organs too much, causing a large belly in the horse which is injurious to the wind, making the horse slow-winded. Clover hay, second-cut hay, and new hay are all foodstuffs which adversely affect hard condition in horses when fed in appreciable quantities, hence they should not be given to horses in which really hard condition is essential, such as hunters during the season, for instance. Green forage of any kind when given to horses in work is not compatible with hard condition, as it gives them a big belly, and makes them sweat easily and profusely. At the same time, there is no reason why these horses should not be fed on good forage, such as lucerne, only moderate quantities at a time, and which are given at a slow pace, as is the case with the Imperial, for instance.

WATER.

There is very prevalent idea exists among some Western riders, that it is necessary to limit the supply of water to horses in which hard

condition is required. This is, of course, quite erroneous, and simply the outcome of ignorance. All horses should always be given as much water as they want, and a sufficient supply of water is in no wise detrimental to hardest condition, but, on the contrary, is conducive to it, as only if he is given as much water as he wants to drink can a horse be kept in perfect health, other things being equal, and when worked, horses in hard condition drink less water than those which are not fit.

It would obviously be quite wrong to assume that hard condition can be obtained solely by feeding a horse on hard corn. Exercise or work is the most important factor in getting a horse into and keeping him in working condition. By working a horse his muscles, tendons, and ligaments are hardened, and he is prevented from laying on fat, whilst the wind is kept in good order. All this cannot be attained by merely feeding him on hard corn without adequate exercise or work.

GOOD GROOMING IS ESSENTIAL.

To hard condition, and without it it is not possible to attain a high degree of working condition, although grooming is not absolutely necessary in the case of horses worked at a walking pace. The beneficial effect which good grooming has on the working condition of horses consists in the fact that it keeps the skin clear and the pores of the skin open, thus promoting the activity of the skin, and allowing it to carry out its function of aiding the lungs to remove the carbonic acid produced by breathing. The more severe the work thrown upon the lungs is, the more necessary it is that the skin should assist in removing the carbonic acid, hence, as regards hard condition—the amount of grooming should be proportionate to the amount of fast work a horse is subjected to. Besides assisting the lungs, the skin regulates perspiration, and on this account should be kept clean and in good working order by thorough grooming in the case of stabled horses which are worked. A further function of the skin consists in that it aids in removing effete products in the blood from the body, and the harder a horse is worked, and the more highly he is fed on concentrated food, the more necessary is it that the skin should perform this function to its fullest extent.

Although the feeding of hard corn alone is not sufficient for producing and maintaining hard condition in horses, it is very advantageous to give a feed of oats when horses are turned out to grass, as the process of getting them into working condition again when they are subsequently taken up from grass. When fed on some corn in addition to the grass they eat when turned out, horses do not lose condition to such an extent as they do when they are given no concentrated food.

MAINTAINING CONDITION.

It is not possible to maintain the highest degree of hard condition in horses for an indefinite time, such as is the case with racehorses in training. Under ordinary circumstances it is neither possible nor desirable to get horses into such condition as racehorses are in prior to running a race. Next to racehorses and steeplechasers, hunters require to be in the hardest condition. It is, of course, very desirable to have them in thoroughly hard condition at the beginning of the season, but in practice this is very frequently not the case, and many hunters are not really "fit" until half the season is over. The harder the condition of horses when they are hunted, the less likely are they to suffer in their limbs or otherwise from the effects of jumping or much galloping. It is, however, not advisable to have hunters in too spare a condition at the commencement of the hunting, because under severe work they are sure to lose flesh.

HARNESS HORSES AND HACKS.

It is not necessary that they should be in such hard condition as hunters during the season, because they are not worked so severely. There is frequently difficulty in keeping the former in satisfactory working condition owing to their not getting sufficient and regular exercise, with the consequence that when called upon to do extra severe or long work they are not really in sufficiently hard condition to undergo it, and are very liable to be over-exerted.

WITH REFERENCE TO FLESH, ETC.

Taking the word "condition" in its wider meaning as denoting the state the horse's body is in as regards the amount of flesh and fat (if any) he carries, this may vary greatly in horses which are worked and fed in the same way. Some horses will appear to be in much better condition than others, owing to their being better "doers." Some horses will always look to be more or less in poor condition, with ribs showing and truckled-up belly, no matter how liberally they are fed, whilst others readily lay on fat unless very severely worked. Although a horse in working condition should be free from fat, it is by no means meant that he should be in poor condition. There is a great difference between a horse in hard condition and carrying superfluous flesh or fat as the result of plenty of exercise and good feeding, and a horse in poor or lean condition owing

to being underfed or insufficient food. In the case of horses in poor working condition, the ribs should be some fleshed. In the case of horses in poor working condition, the ribs should be some fleshed. In the case of horses in poor working condition, the ribs should be some fleshed.

Besides working condition and condition, which two terms in many cases are synonymous, we may have show condition in horses, and also so-called "deers" condition. In both these latter cases horses carry a great deal of flesh and of fat, the object being to make them appear as favorable as possible to the eye. There can be no question that a horse appears to better advantage when carrying plenty of flesh than when in spare condition, and he is therefore more likely to make a favorable impression. Such dealers' or show condition is, however, the reverse of beneficial as regards the working powers of a horse, and on the horse in question being put to hard work it is very soon lost.

MIXED MILK OF DIFFERENT BREEDS.

It is the custom in many butter dairies (writes the "Field") to keep two or more breeds of cows, the milk of which differs in salient features, in order that a better balanced return may be obtained. The usual plan, except, perhaps, in private country-house dairies, is to keep non-pedigree Shorthorns and one or two Jerseys to every eight or ten of the former, the idea being for the cosmopolitan variety to give the quantity, and the island cows the needed degree of quality to the product. That the practice has much to commend it, is firmly contended by those who have had the longest experience in its operation, and who are the most careful observers respecting matters of the kind. It is always desirable, however, to be able to adduce concrete, as well as general, evidence, in justification of any economical system, and with the object of obtaining the former, the management of the Somerset County Council farm have carried out experiments designed to test the value of the proceeding. Shorthorn and Jersey milks were mixed in varying proportions "with a view to determining whether any more butter was obtained from the mixture than would be made from the milks if churned separately." For the purposes of the first experiment two mixtures of Shorthorn and Jersey milk, in the proportions of 90 per cent. and 10 per cent., and 80 per cent. and 20 per cent., respectively, were made, the weights of milk used being, where possible, 27lb Shorthorn and 3lb Jersey, and 24lb Shorthorn and 6lb Jersey. The amount of butter contained in each mixture was then separately determined. Thus the experiments made on the same day determining by actual churning of the butter contents of Shorthorn and Jersey milks, together with those of the same milks mixed in two different proportions, and by comparing the yields they were able to decide whether any actual gain resulted from the simple expedient of mixing the milks. The first set of tests was conducted in October, and the second in February, so that the results obtained may be held as fairly applicable to the milk product of the winter or house-feeding season. In the meantime similar investigations are being carried out with summer and autumn milk.

The teaching of the inquiry is wholly and emphatically indicative of the wisdom of the mixed method. In every instance, whether the results were determined by actual churning or theoretical calculation, there was an appreciable increase in butter, or butter fat, due absolutely to the simple process of mixing the milks of the two breeds named. The gains in the first instance amounted to about 234lb and 70lb respectively, on the annual yield of nine cows, and although they do not mean a great deal of money, the consistency of the results materially enhances the importance of the verdict. It is noticeable that, in the February experiments the gains were larger, the best results accruing from the mixing of the milks of seven Shorthorns and two Jerseys. On the basis of this result, the mixing of the milks of a herd similarly comprised would produce an actual gain of about 155lb of butter in the year, which at 1s per lb would represent the profit from mixing. The advantage derivable from the mixing is not to be measured entirely by the increase in quantity, however. The color and quality of the butter are very sensibly improved as a result of the Jersey admixture. In private dairies the Jersey breed has established something approaching a monopoly, but the tenant farmer would not be well advised to dispense with the general purpose Shorthorn as his mainstay. Besides producing a readily marketable calf, she yields the quantity of milk or butter that is so essential. But if he were to include a few Jerseys in the proportion of two to seven, it is evident that he would be appreciably benefited.

FIELD AND DAIRY.

1905.

"Gleaner."

be thoroughly ac-

milkers.

Hasten

much as possible.

transmit such impulse, but constantly interrupts the natural motor impulses originating in the brain of the horse, thereby frequently causing a good-gaited horse to become addicted to the habit of inco-ordination, with its attending results. You have all no doubt witnessed the disastrous results of placing a good-gaited horse in a poor driver's hands. Interfering is probably the most constant source of annoyance. In front it is usually due to faulty conformation, involving the chest or fore-quarter. The thoroughbred type may be cited as confirmed interferers, geldings, owing to early castration, being particularly predisposed. With this type of horse interfering is usually due directly to the fact that he is narrow-chested, and good action is seldom associated with this type, as a large majority are stiff-kneed, owing to a lack of natural muscular development. Contrast the above type with that of a stag or stallion, and note the difference in conformation, style and action.

CALF-KNEED HORSES.

Calf-kneed horses, unless heavy in the chest, with legs set well apart, are apt to be troublesome. The same may be said of horses with straight pasterns. Low-headed and sluggish horses might also be placed in this class. Horses that toe out are notorious, and can invariably be placed in the interfering and knee-knocking class, unless they happen to be of a draft horse type, with legs set well apart. Pacers seem to be particularly prone to this malformation, and a pair of knee-boots must accompany every trotter or pacer that possesses a three-minute clip. If he stands too out. In this connection it may be added that pigeon-toed horses never interfere or hit their knees.

Interfering behind is so common that no class or type of horse can be excepted, as the fault arises from cause, two numerous to mention. First of all, narrow, drooping-hipped, low-going trotters are the worst offenders. On the contrary, pacers seldom if ever interfere, except in walking or going slow. Green horses are apt to interfere during the first six months of their city life, as it requires at least a period of that length to overcome such predisposing causes as walking in a narrow furrow during the early spring work on the farm, and later in the season, perhaps, doing more or less travel over country roads, where a wide-gaited horse finds it very tiresome to cover a distance of a few miles with one foot in a rut and the other up a ridge.

In substantiation of the theories expressed regarding the farm horse, it may be said that trotting-bred colts, notwithstanding manifest predisposition owing to conformation, seldom interfere after a season's work at the track, owing entirely to a uniform development of their muscular system, and an intelligent method of shoeing with an object of overcoming such defects, whether natural or acquired.

KNEE-KNOCKERS AND FORGING.

Knee-knockers may ordinarily be placed in two distinct classes. First, the high-going horse, that toes out, and, second, the low-going, narrow-chested trotter or pacer with speed. Beware of the latter, as he will also, in all probability, interfere when going slow.

Forging, scalping, and shin-hitting are the direct causes of hitching behind, and can usually be associated with trotters, owing to their inability to properly extend themselves in front. This condition applies particularly to a class of horses with extensor flexor muscles equally developed behind, and comparatively high, full action, straight or otherwise, in contrast to a dwelling, forward movement of the fore feet, complicated by a lateral twisting or turning of the foot or leg, either in or out, due to non-development of the extensor muscles of the anterior limb. Line-pacers will frequently brush their hind coronet hard enough to cause them to hitch or roll in their efforts to avoid the contact, which seriously interferes with the development of speed.

Horses that carry a high head on account of tender mouths are frequently addicted to the habit of interfering with the coronary band behind, and owing to this fault it has been found necessary to develop the extensors by the use of toe-weights. In many instances, however, it will be found necessary to let the heels grow high in order to lessen the tension upon the flexor muscles. This will to some extent retard flexion until momentum has carried the body past the centre of gravity, or point where flexion ceases and extension begins. That is, the object should be to intercept the act of flexion before it is completed, and hasten the act of extension. In case the offender has long toes, it may be necessary to shorten them, or to add a small toe-calk to the shoe, which in many instances will suffice without the addition of toe-weights.

WHEN IS A HORSE PROPERLY BALANCED?

Anticipating the question, "How is a

MANURE.

RESULTS EXP.

The following experiments carried out on land Agriculture of turnips:

1. Nitrate of soda crop at the rate of other artificial manures results if half the soda in the drills is applied as a top-dressing after the thinning of 1.
2. Nitrate of soda drills produces a some but it is more effect quantity applied whole after the thinning of 1.
3. Sulphate of ammonia drills is quite as effective as rather more effective, quantity of nitrate of soda, but does not yield as much as nitrate of soda applied drills and partly as a top-dressing.
4. An equally effective apply half the nitrogen sulphate of ammonia, and dressing of nitrate of soda.
5. In the growth of the turnip, or artificial manures alone, potash essential and important constituents the manure on the great farms, and its omission largely diminishes both crop and profits.
6. Potash is required on medium soils as well as on the classes of turnip soils.
7. Kainit is the most suitable form of potash manure for a crop when applied in the spring. Muriate of potash is so less effective, while sulphate of gives decidedly inferior results.
8. While it has been shown in previous experiments that superphosphate on ordinary arable soils produces in most years a larger yield of turnips than the equivalent quantity of basic slag, the experiments of 1900 show that in some cases the latter form of phosphatic manure yields the larger crop.
9. Seasons favorable to basic slag those in which the autumn is wet and mild, and in which the growth of the turnip crop is prolonged to a late period.
10. The largest and most uniform crop will be obtained as a rule by the use of both forms of phosphatic manure in combination.
11. The quantity of phosphoric acid required by the turnip crop is not more than that contained in 6 cwt. superphosphate (30 per cent. soluble), and any increase in the amount of phosphate supplied will give no corresponding increase in the yield of crop.
12. In unfavorable seasons, when the yield of the turnip for the farm, and on soils in which phosphate is deficient

seem to be ascending to grade, the reverse would be to increase and increase way home.

Never put a poor milker. Butter will make a cow so that its milk is "greasy" for the points to direct the vent inter-gait.

First, not and posture reference to the while standing in the animal and drawing an imaginary line from the upper portion of the leg to the point of the toe, any abnormality such as toeing out or in can be readily discerned.

Change your position and note the pattern with reference to its straightness or obliquity. A slight springing or tendency toward being calf-kneed may also be noted at this time.

Pick up each foot and carefully note how each shoe has been worn, their approximate weight and length of service, and make a careful inquiry of the driver as regards the horse's disposition and driving qualities. Also observe the kind of bit and check used.

Then have the horse driven over a smooth pavement, directly in front of you for a short distance and returned in the same manner, at a clip ordinarily required or generally utilized. From this position it is easy to note the carriage of the foot or limb during the progress of the stride. After viewing the horse from this position, both at rest and in motion, step back a few paces, have him driven past you several times in order that you may carefully note the height of flexion, and the act of extension, either of which may be the primary cause of interference or faulty gait, and possibly as easily remedied as seen.

During this exercise every movement of the animal must be noted, and especially that of the offending foot or limb, as regards its relation to the rest of the animal economy.

MANURE RESULTS EXP.

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GIVES NO TROUBLE.

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ALL STOREKEEPERS AND MERCHANTS STOCK IT.

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WHEN IS A HORSE PROPERLY BALANCED?

Anticipating the question, "How is a

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place, would you act on your own counsel?

"Not I, on my soul. If there are two ways to an end, I would choose that which has the more spice in it, and devil take the danger. But you and I stand on different footings, Gerard, and I would not so counsel you."

"Counsel or no counsel, I stay, Pascal. We will have the troops up when the need calls for them. But I will follow the spirit of your advice. I'll write to my cousin d'Alembert, at Cambrai, bidding him be prepared to march hither at an hour's notice; and to-morrow early you must find means to despatch a messenger to him. Then seek out Dubois, and tell him to keep in close touch with the hundred we brought into the city as monks, so as to assemble them at any moment. Do you know how the hundred we played at presenting to this Governor have been bestowed?"

"That was a shrewd step," answered Pascal, with a laugh. "They are enrolled among the castle guards, in accordance with the suggestion Dubois handed on from his Majesty's yourself, Gerard. Pray Heaven, they do but keep discreet tongues. They are tough fighters, and every man would gladly give life for you; but like soldiers, they love their liquor."

"To-morrow, or at any rate, the day following, should see all in readiness for us to act. Now let me write my letter—a task I loathe."

While Gerard wrote, Pascal left the room, wishful in case of emergencies to learn his way better about the great house, and he came back just as the seal was set to the paper.

"Gerard, that sharp-eyed beauty, Madlle. Lucette, wishes a word with you. I met her on the watch in the corridor as I returned."

Gerard went out to her. "May I put a question to you, Madlle. Cobalt?" was how she met him.

"Certainly, mademoiselle. Can I help you? You look sorely troubled."

"Gabielle trusts you so implicitly, monsieur, and 'twas she made me ask you. Will you tell me why you were so anxious that Denys St. Jean should be watched so jealously?"

"I gave my reasons, mademoiselle. When fever and delirium follow loss of blood from a sword thrust there must always be risk to the patient."

"There is no delirium, monsieur. When Denys spoke of you, he was perfectly calm and clear. At first, that is, and until his excitement grew. But what he said of you was said collectedly."

"But the fever is on him, and therefore he should not be left," said Gerard calmly.

She made a quick gesture of impatience. "Can you not answer me frankly, monsieur? Oh, pardon me, but I am in such distress. You have some other reasons. I saw the look that passed between you and M. de Proballe."

"Would you ask me to interpret for you all M. de Proballe's looks, and to explain all you may have thought in your excitement?" and he smiled.

"Denys is so hot against you, and makes such charges."

"Should I warn you to set a watch over him if I myself were minded to do him any harm for that? In all honest truth, I care not what he may either think or say."

"But he declares —"

"By your leave, I would rather not hear what he says except from his own lips. I shall know how to answer him."

She lifted her hands despairingly and was turning away, when a further question occurred to her. "On your honor, monsieur, you have no other reason for this watching than what you have said?"

"That is a question which I would rather that you did not put to me."

"But we trust you so," she cried reproachfully.

He smiled again. "Then do as I have suggested."

"Oh, what a mystery it all this," she exclaimed, and left him.

"One word more, mademoiselle," he said, following her a couple of paces. "We are soldiers and accustomed to long watches and little sleep. One of us will be on watch out here in the corridor for the night."

She made no reply, and Gerard, going back to Pascal, told him what he proposed; that they two should watch in turns through the night.

once; but so cunningly and softly now, so warily and so keen of scent for the watchers, that neither Gerard nor Pascal knew of his coming; and in the morning both agreed that they had kept their vigil to no purpose. Could they have heard the report which Dauban gave to his master, however, they would have known otherwise.

De Proballe was ill at ease, indeed. He did not like the attitude which Gerard had adopted. He had looked for a pliant tool, afraid of his life; and he found instead, a man who showed independence and firmness, who had a will of his own, and who both said and did things that made against his plans.

For his purpose it was not by any means enough that Gerard should succeed in making a good impression on Gabielle. That was right, so far as it went; but Gerard seemed to be captivated by her beauty; and that was altogether wrong. If there was to be love between them, the whole scheme might be jeopardized; and with it — would go his own more daring and ambitious plans.

Were Gerard to marry Gabrielle, and then turn against him, no one could foresee the consequences. The blundering interference in regard to Denys was unaccountable; and the manner in which he had flinched from the necessary step of dealing with one whose knowledge was so dangerous, was profoundly disturbing. It was enough to rouse the wrath of any one; and when Dauban brought word that a watch was actually being kept which rendered it impossible even to get to the door of the room, his perplexity equalled his ill-temper.

He had his own standards of judging men; and he could only come now to the conclusion that Gerard was in some way playing for his own hand. This thought kept him in a ferment of speculation the whole night.

Seeing Gerard in the gardens early, he went down to him, resolved to have an explanation.

"I want a word with you, Gerard," he said bluntly. "We must understand one another or this will go no farther."

Gerard had gone out early in the hope of seeing Gabrielle, and was anything but pleased to have de Proballe's company instead; nor did he at all relish the peremptory tone in which de Proballe spoke. Thus his answer was sharp and curt.

"What is there we do not understand, monsieur?"

"In the first place, you must understand that as I am the author of this marriage scheme, you must work for it as I direct, or it must come to an end."

"Is that so?"

"Yes, it is so; and you had better know it. I first thought of it, I found the proofs of her parents' wishes to lay before Gabrielle; and what I made I can as easily unmake again. I have but to speak a word and the bubble will burst."

"Then it was a lie, M. de Proballe?" asked Gerard coldly and incisively.

"A lie, as you know perfectly well; one in which you have already taken part, and which you have come here in person to continue to the end. It is useless for us to play like children at pretences. In your letters to me you have expressed your willingness to put yourself entirely in my hands, to do precisely what I tell you. Now, will you do it? If you will not, say so."

"My memory for such matters is short, monsieur, and in regard to all such communications I am as if I had never penned them," replied Gerard, after a moment's pause.

"Then it is as I thought. You have some scheme of your own to further. What is it?" De Proballe was furious at the answer.

"If it be my own, as you suggest, should I be likely to disclose it to you?"

"You do not deny it?"

"I do not admit your right to question me."

"Do you intend to marry Gabrielle?"

"Without a doubt, if she will deign to marry me."

"Then why did you set a watch outside that babbler's door all through the night?"

"How do you know that I did?"

"No matter. I know it, and that is enough."

"I was right, then, in thinking you choose the night for your work. Watch, monsieur, because I had to be a party to your murderous will repent this attitude."

likely. Most of us spend our lives in either committing one blunder or another."

"That may be part of the better understanding, the reference to which opened our conversation. Need we say any more?"

"Before the day is done you may understand better," cried de Proballe, furiously.

"Shall we leave it, then, for the coming hours to decide?" retorted Gerard, lightly, and without more he turned his back and walked away.

De Proballe returned to the house more uneasy and more wrathful than ever. He seemed to see his schemes crumbling to pieces before his eyes, and to be unable to avert the ruin. He had built so much on Gerard's coming that he was loth now to carry his fears to the Governor; and thus stop the marriage altogether; and yet it was plain that if this was to be Gerard's attitude when he had married Gabrielle and was master of Malincourt, the very marriage itself might but make matters worse than they were at present.

He could not see what private scheme Gerard could have in reserve; and came at length to think that the success with Gabrielle had so turned Gerard's head that he believed himself master of the situation. From this delusion it would not be difficult to rouse him, however. A word or two from the Duke that his life was in danger would soon cure his swashbuckler mood; and such a word he could instigate at any moment. He could therefore safely let matters run their course for the present.

In this temper he awaited the hour fixed for Gerard's interview with the Governor; but early in the forenoon the latter arrived at Malincourt, and de Proballe found him in a dangerous temper.

"We were to wait upon you, Castle, Duke," he said, suavely.

"Am I not welcome at Malincourt?"

"You can need no assurance from me. I trust, that your presence here is an honor and a welcome."

"Umph!" and the Duke's shoulders. "What at Malincourt?" they asked.

"I have not seen empty of the ing. I will have heard of it."

"No; that is not my villainous jackal, he has reached me that he has pressed upon your niece that so? Speak plainly."

"He came as her betrothed, done as we would have him the purpose in hand."

"I have my doubts about this after all," was the answer, with a frown. "It will not be too far into her god has cost me a sleep."

"I have come now that I may speak one to the other, may judge how matters arrange this. I am consumed with a gnawing plague of jealousy."

"You will, of course, understand."

"I will understand you must."

De Proballe was about the Duke sternly.

"Will you must I find a plan I can co-

hidden here when on the terrace, at de Cobalt that the hour when he is to accor-

Castle, and ask him to terrace. Then I can and get her there."

"Give the instruction."

"Monsieur le Duc, balle, in a tone of."

"Monsieur le Duc, Proballe's tone of."

coarsely. "I can mean to have either of them."

De Proballe had contem-

syndicate, Ja way to the the shortest from the ra- ing at th k the "W certain f ich way

Sydney (ugh) b wee i int e S ds. ham ager Roy ar ap

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THEIR FUTURE POSSIBILITIES
PETROL MOTOR DESCRIBED
THE PASSING OF
eye out of the dusk. To Liz it was
engine of fate. The student felt in
pocket, doubtfully. He was poor, but
was near Christmas. He stepped out
and hailed the car from the roadway.
He felt vaguely sorry as he helped her
up the steps; she was such a bit of a
thing to be travelling by herself at night.
The inside of the car was cheerful with
lights and advertisements.
"Good-night, kiddie, and cheer up!" he
said.

The conductor waited impatiently with
his hand on the bell cord. Liz lifted a
small white face, appealingly. The tall
student half stooped towards it, then
drew back. His warm fingers felt for
hers, and folded them over a half-crown.
The car started on. For a moment Liz
stood there transfixed, and her face
burned slowly from pink to scarlet.
She started out into the night of
whirling snowflakes which engulfed
rapidly the student, the street
lamp, the big square outline of
the building they left behind. She
drew in her breath and hurried the coin
from her passionately. It gleamed a
second in mid-air, then sank noiselessly
from sight into the soft drifted snow of
the gutter. "Black and White."

A LONDON LITERARY INCIDENT.

By H. HERVEY.

SCENE I.

(First-class compartment, E. district Rail-
way, Mark Lane; time, 3 p.m. Summer.
Sole occupant James Lyall, going home to
Hammersmith; good-looking bachelor;
forty; recently retired Anglo-Indian;
small pension; ekes it out by writing.
After several disappointments he sub-
mits "A True Heart" to "The Halcyon
Magazine," ladies' monthly. Within
week editor accepts; offers five guineas,
and asks for more copy. Lyall closes;
sets to work and sends in "Enshrined
in her Soul." Heroine built on his idea
of feminine perfection—petite, blonde,
young, trustful, tearful, womanly. "Hal-
cyon's" third issue after acceptance con-
tains "The Hart," five-guinea cheque
follows. "The Soul" been in two months;
Lyall afraid to send reminders; knows
by now that editors don't stand bother-
ing; fights shy of them; resolves to
wait. At Charing Cross, one lady pas-
senger boards; carries bag; takes corner
opposite Lyall; ships pince-nez; sharply
scrutinises vis-a-vis, and then starts on
newspaper. Lyall, under cover of his
observes her: tall, elegant, chic, hand-
some brunette; about thirty, with shrewd
purposeful expression, suggesting busi-
ness woman. She sheds gloves; beauti-
ful hands; no wedding ring. Abandons
news-sheet; from bag takes some typed
papers tacked with fastener; puts them
down to fish out pencil; Lyall reads cap-
ital line "Enshrined in Her Soul!" First
staggered, then reflects: some idiot had
hit on identical title; but to make sure,
drops his "Chronicle" and in stooping
for it, deciphers small type below head-
line, "By Exotic," his own nom de
plume! Wonders who she is; how she
had got hold of his MS. Watches her
reading; she smiles contemptuously; pre-
sently, throws back her head, and laughs
aloud; doubles papers in two, scrawls
something on top, re-consigns it to bag,
and now draws forth copy of "Halcyon!"
Lyall fathoms it; she is one of their
readers; curses editor in his heart—for
shunting his stuff on to her—a paid hire-
ling! She alights at West Kensington;
Lyall notices that she moves gracefully,
topping other women; superior, thorough-
bred. Determines if possible to cultivate
her; get into her good books; so
next day, armed with a copy of
"Halcyon," boards same train; com-
partment to himself; again she gets in at
Charing Cross, with bag; Lyall feigning
unconsciousness, stares at "Halcyon."
She takes opposite corner as before;
ships pince-nez, when immediately "Hal-
cyon's" showy cover attracts her atten-
tion; gazes hard at it, then at him,
searchingly. Lyall looks innocent. She
produces her "Halcyon"; but is in no
mood for reading; wants to talk; fidgets
about. Lyall, conscious that she fre-
quently scans him, gets uncomfortable;
looks up, and his eye catches hers.
That drives in thin edge of wedge, breaks
the ice.)

She (firing first shot; speaking plea-
santly, but with decision) — Is it not
wonderful the number of new magazines
that have appeared lately?

Lyall (as nicely as he can) — It is in-
deed! And the question naturally pre-
sents itself how they all manage to
secure an appreciable share of the
market?

She — Oh, many have but an ephemeral
existence; endure for a space, and are
heard of no more.

Lyall (impressed by her refined diction
and musical voice) — While others reach
the popular favor.

She — True, but those are on a sound
basis, with money behind them; they
have come to stay.

Lyall — The "Halcyon" included?

She (smiling) — I should say so. I see
that you have a copy.

Lyall (smiling too) — Oh, I take it in: it
is a nice paper. Enjoys the honor of
your patronage, I perceive.

She — Yes, it is a good six-penny-
worth don't you think? (Lyall agrees;
they keep up conversation all the way, and
by the time they reach West Kensington,
establish quite an entente cordiale. Same
evening on for several days; both always

getting horses for our work. The
country was depleted at the time of the
South African war, and it is now to get
now to get
and stop
And
shows down for W. Ken-
ing him straight in (face) —
your name?

(for moment taken aback, but
aved not to give himself away at
his stage of game; using first patrony-
wic that occurs to him) — Er — Ruthven.
She — Thanks. I am Miss Stopford
(adding — after slight pause). But talk-
ing in a railway carriage is trying. Do
you know the Embankment Gardens — by
Whitehall Court?

Ruthven (to be styled so pro tem) —
Yes.
Miss Stopford — Well, I sit there for an
hour or so between twelve and two daily.
Perhaps — er — (blushes) breaks down,
gathers up belongings in one hand, holds
out other) Good-bye!

Ruthven (treasuring hint) — Good-bye.
Miss Stopford (takes her hand, bows low
over it; sidles past, opens door, and
stands bare-headed on platform as she
sweeps by, with graceful inclination of
acknowledgment).

SCENE II.

(Day following, noon; Embankment Gar-
dens. Ruthven first there. Presently Miss
Stopford appears, carrying bag. Ruthven
anathematizes that bag, as more sugges-
tive of work than play. Advances, lifts
hat, and indicates bench in shade.

Miss Stopford (as she sits down) — I
come here for a breath of fresh air, and
to clear the cobwebs from my brain.

Ruthven (dramatically) — Cobwebs! I
cannot associate you with anything so
mundane as cobwebs.

Miss S. (smiling on him) — Don't descend
to artificialities. You try my work, and
see if you do not become fazed now and
again. Yours, I should say, is a fairly
average intellect wherewith to make the
experiment.

R. (thinking she looks handsomer than
ever in full light of day, smiles and bows)
— Thank you.

Miss S. — You will perhaps understand
me better when you know that I am an
Editor.

R. (nearly bounds off seat. She — an
Editor or Editress! He — face to face
with a real live specimen of the genus!
Stares at her idiotically, thinks of sink-
ing on knees, confessing himself a scribe,
a candidate for editorial cheques. Sobers,
resolves to keep it going, and cultivate
her yet further. Gurgling) Oh, — er —

Miss S. (laughing outright; fixing place-
net, and regarding him amusedly) — I ap-
pear to have amazed you, Mr Ruthven.

R. (getting into hand) — I must apolo-
gize. I admit I am surprised to know
that I am in company of one who holds so
high a position in the literary world.
There is a divinity, Miss Stopford, with
which an Editress or Editor is hedged
that separates her or him from the ol-
d polloi of life.

Miss S. — Yes; I have noticed, in those
would-be contributors who screw them-
selves up to the pitch of bearding us in
our dens, a diffidence, comic as it is un-
accountable. Why should we be regarded
as so many ogres and ogresses, I wonder.

R. (without attempting to allay her
wonderment) — And so you are an Editor
or Editress! May I be so bold as to ask
of what paper? Because I shall certainly
take it in.

Miss S. — You already do so; "The
Halcyon."

R. (with superhuman but successful ef-
fort — commanding himself) — Are you in-
deed! No wonder then that it is so well
conducted.

Miss S. — Very kind of you to say so. I
— er — own as well as edit it.

R. (pricking up his ears — perhaps with
eye to main chance) — I hope it has a
large circulation.

Miss S. — Yes; far exceeding my expec-
tations, and still going up.

R. — I am glad! (After pause) May I
ask your opinion on a story appearing in
your May number, "A True Heart," by a
Mr James Lyall — under the nom de plume
of "Exotic?"

Miss S. (regarding him keenly) — Why
do you ask?

R. — Because I — er — happen to know the
author; met him in India; he told me
about it the other day.

Miss S. — That was accepted by the sub-
editor during my holiday. I should have
rejected it.

R. (feeling cheap) — Dear me!
Miss S. — The leading incident is inter-
esting — and something new; but the
heroine — Mrs what's-her-name, is a
mass of incongruity, and spoils the whole
story.

R. (feeling cheaper) — Dear me! Will
you point out the incongruity? I thought
that Mr Lyall had made rather a good
thing of it.

Miss S. (now put on her professional
metal) — The author's description of his
heroine plainly makes her a young girl;
a fool — who married too soon; a mere chit
of a thing; blonde, hysterical, and I
might say — an imbecile; loving and cling-
ing, perhaps; but with no two ideas of
her own, and woefully deficient in that
"slimness" and "go" — so essential for our
sex nowadays. Do you follow me?

R. (limply) — Yes.
Miss S. — Well, for an insipidity of that
milk-and-water brand to have the courage
to seize her husband's Commanding
Officer by the moustache and twist his
head aside — to prevent his kissing her,
and then with her eyes streaming tears
— to re-enter the rooms, to scandalise the
guests at a regimental ball by shrieking
out for her husband! I have no patience
with her; less so for her creator, James
Lyall, the "Exotic." What sort of a
man is he?

R. (at his cheapest) — Oh, an ordinary

There has latterly been gratifying evi-
dence in club cricket in M. Each
thg, and one up, we I need
ite, or pastime, mea little
Miss S. (sidling and w
— Be my Sub-Has well a
— husband.

Lyall — Gladly. Wh
fice I will hail with as
and my pen: the shut
home, you shall stress o
Is it a bargain?

Miss S. (after giving him
then saying languidly) — It
Lyall — Let's not then.
Miss S. — How
Lyall — This is forward
ing her on the

It has not been published. It is a good
story, except for the same error that mars
his former one; and for which reason I
shall return it. Again is his heroine one
of your boneless, bloodless, yellow-haired
nonentities; as devoid of character as this
seat. And with such a promising name,
too — Agatha St. George! She is a
Miss in this tale. But just imagine the
sorry creature, after exhibiting
nerve sufficient to sit up all night with
a man friend on a tree platform for the
purpose of shooting a tiger — imagine her
I say — throwing down her rifle on the
tiger's appearance, spilling the man's aim,
and bursting into tears — to vow that she
could not be so cruel as to kill the beau-
tiful animal. Now, there's stuff for you!

R. (all these weeks patiently expectant
of acceptance — and cheque) — Quite so.
Miss S. — I admit — your friend writes
well. The under current of subsidiary
incidents are deftly handled, and there's
a praiseworthy absence of padding. But
it he must place his leading woman in
heroic situations of sorts, why — in the
name of common sense does he not build
her on that kind of model from which
the reader would expect doughty deeds,
and which — he should make her carry
through — instead of fail in? Why invest
her with a sickening superabundance of
female weaknesses? Why keep the tears
so near the surface? Why adhere to the
blonde?

R. (simply and thoughtfully, escorting
her to the gate) — Quite so.

SCENE III.
(Same time and place, a week later.
Ruthven employs interval — confined to
his flat — writing another story. In
creating heroine, totally ignores hitherto
cherished ideal; takes his new-found fer-
tish for example; putting together verifi-
able goddess; mellow, dark-browed, dark-
eyed, divinely tall. Delineates her clean
of all feminine foibles, weaknesses and
idiosyncrasies; makes her strong, pur-
poseful, self-reliant. She saves her lover
from threatened financial crisis; throws
herself into breach; takes management
of his affairs, and restores them to pros-
perity. She has no tears, no womanli-
ness, no "quash." Names story "From
Hades to Olympus," names heroine "Per-
sephone Champfleure." Posts MS.
seventh morning — to Editor of "The
Halcyon.")

Puts in at usual rendezvous
noon — following day. Miss Stopford joins
him: the tell-tale flush of pleased sur-
prise on spotting him speaks volumes.
Saturday; scarcely soul in gardens.)

Miss S. (giving him her hand) — I have
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Castle two hours after noon. Make this flight impossible after then; and after that I will see to it that no chance offers for her to leave even the Castle itself. If the mad attempt be made, have the scoundrel seized and brought to me."

De Proballe was by no means sorry to get away from the Governor in his present mood, and returned to Malincourt, to keep the watch; while the Governor hurried on to the Castle to take further steps designed to prevent this suggested flight; and some of them were to have important results in another direction.

He despatched a body of soldiers to watch round Malincourt, and at the same time sent urgent commands to the officers of the different gates of the city that no one was to be allowed to pass out without leave signed by him. Thus it came about that the courier whom Pascal was sending to Cambrai was stopped, and a valuable time was lost.

The Governor, having completed these arrangements, was closeted for an hour with his wife, and as soon as he heard, with his intense relief, that Gabrielle had arrived at the Castle, and was with the Duchess, he sent for Dubois to sound him in regard to that part of the plan which called for the aid of the Church.

He was as hot now upon the scheme of divorcing his wife in order to be free to marry again, as he had been formerly upon the other intention.

The fuse by which Gerard had succeeded in getting a hundred of his own soldiers enrolled among the Castle troops, by pretending that they came as a gift from the Cardinal Archbishop, was thus having singular results. The Governor read it as a proof that he stood so well with the Cardinal that he could hope to receive his Eminence's support in the matter of the divorce; and as he concluded Dubois had been chosen as the Cardinal's delegate because of the latter's confidence in him, here was the very man at hand to sound on the matter.

Dubois was a clever soldier and a brave fighter, and had been selected by Gerard for his present task because his influence with the men was most likely to keep them in bounds while in the castle. He made a very brusque monklike monk, however; and he now found himself in a very awkward position. Moreover, he knew nothing of Gerard's experiences within the last few hours.

He listened quietly to the Duke, and, seeing no connection between the matter and any of Gerard's affairs, felt no interest in it at all, and gave his own opinion bluntly. He was a soldier, not a cleric; knew little and cared less about the theological views as to the dissolution of a tie cemented by a sacrament of the Church; and the only thought he had about it was that as the Tiger Governor was such a tyrant, it was a blessing and not a curse that he was childless—the point on which with him the Duke laid the chief stress.

"His Eminence would never sanction it, my lord," he declared brusquely. "It is against the Canon of the Holy Church."

"But it has been sanctioned before now," replied the Governor, and went on to cite instances and to argue the matter. Dubois had, however, only one reply to everything.

"The Cardinal would never sanction it; and his dogged insistence upon this besan-
 and his length to enrage the Governor, not a little to Dubois' grim amusement.

"I would rather have the countenance of the Church, but in Morvaix I am the head of the Church as of all else. I am wont to act first and inquire afterwards in most things. It is simpler, and the end is the same. This may be such a case. If I should seek your help as the Cardinal's representative you would give it?"

"It is none of my affair," replied Dubois nastily.

"I repeat, my question;" and the Governor looked at him meaningly. But Dubois was the last man in the world to be browbeaten; and thus he answered stolidly.

"And I repeat my answer, my lord."

"I am not wont to be set at defiance by monk or priest."

"Nor I to be driven from my duty, my lord. I am not setting you at defiance."

"My priests in Morvaix do not answer me thus."

"I am not your lordship's priest."

"You will at least keep silence about what has passed between us?"

"Unless my duty demand that I should speak of it."

"What is that but threatening me and defying me?"

The Governor's anger was mounting fast in view of what he deemed the monk's contumacy, and Dubois was no less dogged and blunt.

"If what you propose to do be right

"What need is there for silence; if it be wrong, why should my lips be sealed?" he answered.

"Secrets confided to the ears of your holy men are to be regarded as sacred." "This is no such occasion. You sought my opinion and I gave it. That is all. My duty is my duty, none the less or more."

"Peace with your canting about duty. You are in Morvaix now, and I will settle what is your duty. I rule here absolutely."

"I am not disputing your rule, my lord; but I was not sent here to do your bidding or to cease to do what I deem my duty."

"Out of my sight. It is such canting hypocrites as you who sow discord and do mischief. See to it that you hold your babbling tongue, or I'll find means to silence you." But Dubols fired at this injustice, and answered hotly—

"I am no canting hypocrite, my lord, nor am I a recreant coward to flinch and cringe before your angry looks and passionate words. They do but convince me that in this thing you have some evil purpose; and not in Morvaix, no, nor in all France, is there power to silence me if I think I ought to speak."

"Out of my presence before I send for my guards to drive you away for a pestilential rascal malcontent."

"I came of your seeking, not of my own wish," returned Dubols, not one whit abashed by the Governor's violence.

"If I have cause to send for you again you will repeat it."

"I am in no ways persuaded of that," returned Dubols, sturdily; and he swung out of the room, little thinking that he had done harm to Gerard by his manful attitude. Yet in a way he had; for the Governor, revolving what had passed, determined not to take the risk of applying to the Cardinal, but to hurry on his marriage, and leave the Church to interfere when it would have the accomplished fact to face.

Had Dubols but known, he would have been more prudent to have appeared to consent to the Governor's plans and to have held out to him the hope of the Cardinal's consent, so that he might have been induced to incur the delay necessary to obtain it. He saw this when Gerard pointed it out to him later. But it was too late then.

In the meantime the Duchess had received Gabrielle with even greater tenderness and love than usual; and it was some time before she began to work round slowly to the subject of the Duke's wishes.

"I am old, feeble, and bed-ridden, Gabrielle, and worse than all, childless. I am done with the world, dear, and willing to give place to one who can play my part better. It would have been better, far better, had I died years ago."

"Then I should have lacked the truest woman friend a girl could have," answered Gabrielle, sweetly. "But you must not yield to this melancholy. You have been in greater pain than usual, I fear, and it has tried you."

"Not of body, child, but of mind, perhaps," and she sighed. "It is ill to lag on and on, a weary, dreary nuisance to all around you. There comes a time when it is good to die."

"You are morbid. Something has distressed you. Tell me," and Gabrielle sat on the bedside and took her friend's hand.

"I have been a failure, child. I see it now; and see how the people under the Duke's rule have suffered in consequence. The Duke himself has shown me this."

"The Duke?" exclaimed Gabrielle, in surprise.

"The influence of a woman's hand in this governing has been sadly missed. He loved me once, child, and then I could sway him, hard though he now seems. But when I bore him no children and my helplessness fell on me, an estrangement grew between us, and from that followed, oh, so many evils." She sighed deeply, and paused before she added: "Yet he has shown me it is not too late, even now."

"I cannot follow you now, dear," said Gabrielle.

"A noble without a son to succeed him lacks one of the great incentives to do right, Gabrielle. He turns his thoughts inward, broods, thinks only of himself, and grows the harder for the galling grief and disappointment. It has been so with the Duke. If I had but died years ago, when first my calamity struck me down, he would have taken another wife whom you would have borne him children. Would God indeed that I had done!"

Gabrielle said nothing, but bowed in answer, her mind the thought that she had feared that there was no more to be said.

her friend's words—some new cause to bring this side of her sufferings to the light just now.

"I used to pray so earnestly for a son," the Duchess continued, after a painful pause; "but none came; and I was thus so unneeded, so less than useless; a clog, a drag, a dead weight in his life. I could not wonder he grew cold, and that in time the coldness hardened into cruelty. I stood for no more than the disappointment in his life." She spoke in a slow, leaden, hopeless, melancholy tone, infinitely touching to Gabrielle. "It is a dreary fate for a wife, child, to stir no other feelings in her husband's heart than that of disappointment and to see it hardening slowly into hate. Had I but dared at that time I would have taken my life. But I was a coward. I dared not find freedom in that way."

"Did the Duke know of these thoughts?" asked Gabrielle, keeping her face averted.

"Whether he could read mine as I could read his, I know not. I saw him only rarely. This has been so for many years indeed. That he should speak often of our childlessness, should even taunt me with it, was perhaps no more than natural—and yet every word was like a sword-thrust in my heart. More than once I made him a proposal."

"Yes."

"It was my own thought," continued the Duchess, smoothing Gabrielle's hair and petting her. "Quite my own. You know how the idea of self-sacrifice will sometimes seize upon us women till it becomes almost a desire. It was so with me. I knew it would be so well for Morvaix if he could have someone by his side heart-warm in the desire to help the people, strong in influence to modify the ever growing sternness of his rule by gentle suasive counsel—he is at heart a man amenable to such influence, Gabrielle—and able to take a due part in the work of government; a helpmeet in all ways. So I urged him to gain the sanction of Holy Church to dissolve our marriage, on the ground of our childlessness, and seek another—and a better wife."

"My dear, my dear," cried Gabrielle, intensely moved. "Where could he find a better in all fair France than you? He refused you, of course."

"Yes—then; and not kindly, but with a gibe—that he had not found marriage an experience he wished to double. It wounded me of course to have what I meant in all sincerity to be a help to him thus turned to jeering; but he did not understand my motive, I think. But now he has gone back to the plan; for there is one, a woman among women, Gabrielle, who would be all that Morvaix could desire as his wife. And the one of all others whom I could best bear to see filling my place."

She paused for Gabrielle to speak; but no response came.

"Her heart, like mine, is for the people's weal, and her influence would be far greater than mine could ever have been with the citizens; real, powerful, active, where mine is now dead. You have often told me how you love the people, Gabrielle."

"You must say no more," answered Gabrielle, in a low, firm voice. "I will not affect to misunderstand you, and I know you speak in all purity of thought and intent. But were all other considerations naught, I would never do you this wrong."

"He and all would honor you if you were his wife, Gabrielle."

"Nay, I should dishonor myself. I beg you say no more."

"You would be all-powerful to rule in Morvaix."

"Were the throne of France the guerdon I would not consent."

"Your heart is free, child?" The gentle eyes were full on Gabrielle's face as the question was put, and the light that rushed to it did not escape them. "Gabrielle, my Gabrielle, I did not know; and at that Gabrielle lowered her head, and hid it on her friend's heart. "Pray, Heaven be it worthy of you. Tell me, child, Or is it a secret?"

"No secret," said Gabrielle, lifting her head proudly. "My cousin, Gerard de Coibalt—"

"Gabrielle, not he, surely not he I trust," interrupted the Duchess in a tone of dismay. "Oh, how I am punished for not having spoken my fears. Since we spoke together of him and his coming, I have heard ill tidings indeed concerning him, but put off speaking to warn you until I could be certain. He is not worthy of you, child; far, far from it."

"You have not seen him and spoken with him, but you would not say that?"

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**Your Barber or
Your Druggist?**

If your hair is too long, go to your barber. He has the remedy—a pair of shears. If your hair is too short, go to your druggist. He has the remedy—a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Ayer's Hair Vigor

Is a Hair Food.

It feeds the hair. The hair grows long and heavy because it gives to the hair just what it needs.

If your hair is turning gray, it shows there is lack of hair nourishment. Give your hair this hair-food and it will take on new life. Soon all the deep, rich color of youth will return to it.

We are sure you will be greatly pleased with Ayer's Hair Vigor as a hair-dressing. It makes the hair soft and smooth, and prevents splitting at the ends.

CHAPTER XIX.—THE ABDUCTION.

[illegible]

